

The most popular

HISTORICAL

OF

Ornatus and Artesia.

WHICH IS CONTAINED THE UNJUST
REIGN OF THEM KING OF

PHRYGIA.

WHO WITH HIS SON LAMM INTENDING
TO AVOID HIS DEATH, RIGHT HEIR TO THE CROWN,
WAS AFTERWARDS SLAIN BY HIS OWN SERVANTS; AND
ORNATUS AFTER MANY EXTREME MISERIES
CROWNED KING.

NEWLY CORRECTED AND AMENDED.



London Printed by B. A. dwelling in Grub-Street near the
Upper-Pump 1650.

TO THE RIGHT

Worshipfull Bryan Stapleton of Carleton,

in the County of York Esquire, the Heavens

grant Health, content, and after life eternall

Happinesse, soe clairlye may

I vouchsafe to saye in this present or noyntynge yere

His unpolisht History / Right Worshipfull / wanting the Ornament of elo-

quence, presenteth it self in his naturall

and self expressing form, in wel applied

words, not in tedious borrowed phrasēs,

wherein neither the lewd can finde examples to fit

their dispositions, the vertuous no rearms to dilcon-

test them, nor the well affected any cause of offence.

Here you shall see Lust Tyrannize, Avarice guilty of

murther, and dignify, seeking his content and usurpa-

tion, yet all subverted by vertue. Which I am bold to

present unto you; not for the worth, but to expresse

my good will, which is not unmindfull in some sort

to gratifie the manifold courtesies I have received of

you. And although it be altogether not worth estima-

tion, ~~as to be accounted~~ no requitall for so many

good turns; yet I desire you to accept the same in

stead of a better, and the sum of that which my ability

at this time can afford: Which being but a fancy,

vouchsafe to esteem, though not agreeing with your

gravity,

The Epistle Dedication

gravity yet (as many both noble and wise in such like matters have done) to be read for recreation. As the value of the gift expresseth not the affection of the giver, nor the outward shew the inward meaning: so I trust you will esteem my good will, not by the worthinesse thereof, but the quality of my well affected intent, which is devoted to you in the bonds of perfect good will, and will be ready to shew it self constant in any tryall you shall make thereof: And for that I know your wisedom and curtesie to be such, as that you wil not misconceive me, but esteem wel hereof, & my affection to you to be exprest in the Dedicatory, I have adventured to Dedicate the same to your protection, though altogether undeserving the title of your Patronage, which your further kindnesses shall bind me hereafter to requite the same with some worshier work, collected by my labors.

Thus being loath to be tedious and troublesome unto you, I commit this silly Present to your acceptance, and your self to the gracious protection of the Almighty.

Your Worships most ready
and exact will be done sign at command.

Reboek van overleven. **Emanuel Foord**, een belangrijke schrijver, die in zijn werk veel aandacht besteedt aan de geschiedenis van de mensenrechten. **The**

THE EPISTLE to the Reader.

 Entlemen, I have published this History, at the intereate of some of my familiar friends, being at the first collected with no intent to have it printed, for as yet having taken but one flight, I durst not too boldly venture again, lest my unskilfulness might cause my repentaunce. But being supported by the affiance of your gentle favours, I shall grow hardie, and hereafter labor to procure your further delight: the reward I exspect being your kind acceptaunce. But if contrary to my thought, this summer fruit be gathered before it be ripe, I promise amends with old fruit, that hath been a year in ripening, and in the beginning of next winter comming forth. In the mean time peruse this Historie, which favoureth more of pleasure, than elexerco, and although hastily compiled, yet let it passe under your favourable censure, and by your courtesies, be shrowded from the variable dislikes of Momus vain imitators.

The learned, wise, and courteous, wil according to the qualitie of their dispositions, esteem well of this unworthie work, valuing the same not by the worth, but the will of the writer. As for such as either rashlie condemn without judgement, or lavishlie dislike without advise, I esteem them like the down of Thistles, inconstantlie dispierst with every blast, accounting their discontent my content: not caring to please those that are pleased with nothing. But did my gains counter vail my labors, I would then frame my fancy to fit their humors, but getting nothing, I can loose no lesse, quely to have a good opinion of the well affected to learning, is all I crave: and that I hope your good minds will afford.

To the Reader.

As at a banquet there are severall kinds of meats, some plod
sane and others sharp, yet all tasted. Amongst Grapes, some sour,
some sweet, yet all esteemed, so with indifference, among a variety
of eloquent Histories, let this serve as one dish to furnish out a
banquet, and like sour and sweet intermingled, make a pleasant
tast, by your courteous construing of my good meaning, and your
favourable opinion of Ornatus. So shall I account my debt to you
great, my labor well bestowed, and my self bound to requite your
kindesse. You shall find your affection to learning, virtue in fa-
vouring good indeavours, and give encouragement to more won-
thy labors, I rest wel contented, my reward rich, and hereafter be-
both ready and willing to deserve your courtesie.

But if Ornatus have breed my blame, as it bred his banishment, then may I wish I had never known her of Malia fortuna for my reward. Will the bird Celen bred in Africca who wounding far from her nest, by forgetfulness cannot return: and so for ever after abandoneth company. So I too boldly building on your courtesy, may be wounded with repentance: and by my oversights brought into despair, unlesse your courtesy prevent the same on which my hopes depend. And I cease.

E. FOORD

The most pleasant History of

ORNATVS AND ARTESIA.

CHAP. I.

How Ornatus became enamoured of the fair Artesia.



The rich and renowned country of Phrygia, in provinces near adjacent to each other, dwelt two ancient knights, the one named Allius, the other named Arbasus, men of great possessions & much honored. Between whom such extreme contention and hatred remained, by reason of the death of one Renon, brother to Allius, long since slain in a quarrel by certain Gentlemen belonging to Arbasus that neither their own wisdom nor

the sturdy persuasions of friends to either party allied, were of any force to mitigate the same. Both of them being enriched with innumerable blessings especially in their fair progeny.

Allius had a sonne of goodly stature, and commendable gifts, named Ornatus. And Arbasus a daughter, called Artesia, exceeding comeliness, exterritly beautified with abundance of gifts

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gifts of nature, and inwardly adorneed with abundance of diuine
perfections. Yet by reason of their Parents discord, they remai-
ned as moche ignorant in knowledge one of the other, as if
they had beeone separated by an innumerable distance of Coun-
tries.

Ornatus above all things delighted in Hawking, and on a
day being weary he wandzed without company with his hawk
on his fist into a most pleasant valley, where he shrowded him-
self under the shadsws of a tuft of green trees, with purpose to
rest himself, and even when his eyes were ready to yeeld to
slumber, he was rousyd from his drowsinesse by the noise of a
kennell of hounds, that past by him in chase of a Stagge after
whom Arbatus and divers in his company (though to him un-
knowyn) followed, who being passed by, whilst he was in a deep
slowy, to think what they shold be, he espied a beautifull dam-
zell entring the same valley, who being somewhat weary, liking
the prospect of that shaduoy tuft of trees, alighted there, which Orna-
tus seeing, withdrew himself from her sight, whilst she tying her
steed to a bush, laid her delicate body down upon the cool
liling earth, to refresh her self, and dry up her sweat, which the
sooner to accomplish she unlaced her garments and with a decent
and comely behaviour, discovered her milk white neck and breast
beautified with two round pretious teats to receive the breath
of the cool wind, which was assited with a delight to exhale the
moiskned vapors from her pure body. Ornatus seeing all, and
unseen himself, nozed with a delight each perfect hancement of
her proper body, beauty, sweet favour, and other comeliness,
which filleo his heart with exceeding pleasure, and grew
into an unrestrained affection towards her, and a great cur-
sy what he shold be, when suddenly his Hawke feeling his fist
moveable, thinking to peache, did with quiet pryme her self, and
having taken wing with the noise of her Weis made Arctia start,
who as one halfe agast, with a fearful behavioy rose from the ground
looking round about her from whence that sound came, she espied Or-
natus, who unwilling she shold perceide he had seen her lay as he
had slept, a riclia marvelling what he shold do, and accouning
thinking

thinking he had slept, closed her naked breast with great hast, and unloosing her horse, thought to go away unespied. Whiche Ornatus perceiving, and unwilling without speaking to her to lose her sight, sene to awake, and raising himself, stedfastly beheld her, whiche infused such a red vermillion blush into her beautifull cheeks, and withall such a bashfull confusion spread it self in her conceits, that she stood like one half amized and ashamed.

Whiche Ornatus perceiving, drew towards her, and grreated her with these speeches. Fair Daniel be not abashed with my presence though a stranger, who shall no way if (I can chuse) offend you, but rather command me and I will be ready to do you any service. Artesia notwithstanding his speeches, withdrew her self aside, leading her horse to a bank where with ease she mounted, and so rode away, not giving him any answer at all.

Ornatus maruelled theret, yet rightly imputed her unkind deporture to her fear, not discourses. And seeing himself deprived of her sight, and the night approaching, he departed home to his fathers house.

After supper, betaking himself to his chamber, with intent to rest he was possessed with such remembrance of the beautifull dame, whil he had seen, that his sleep was transformed into continuall cogitations of her beauty, and the pleasant sight he had seen in the visior very of some of her hidden features imprinted such a delight in his affectionate conceits that he could take no sleep, but he continued all that night in those meditations.

The next day, thinking to shake off all further remembrance of her, he got him into the company of his most chosen friends, wherof in besoer time he took most delight, yet now by reason of his disemperature, he rather sene to weary them. He had not continued long with them, but he was saluted by a Gentleman named Rhylles, with whom he was familiarly acquainted. This Gentleman belonged to an ancient Duke named Turnus, who this day solemnized the honour of his bith day, from which Allinus excused himself of purpose, because he thought he should meet Arbalus there, wherfore because the Duke shoulin take no offence at him, he granted that his son Ornatus shoule go to do him honour.

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Which Phylastes acquainted Ornatus withall, who glad thereof, departed thither in company of divers other Gentlemen: the Duke likewise had sent another Messenger to request Arbastus company, who being of a more mild nature then Allinus, willingly went, and with him his Lady, and fair daughter Artesia.

CHAP. II.

How Ornatus came to the knowledge of Artesia, and intreated Adellena to make knowne his Love to her, and of the rebuke Artesia gave her.



After the Feast was ended, and the Duke had honoured his guests with all manner of courtesie, he and the principallest, among whom Arbastus was one of the chief, according to the custome used in the Countrey, seated themselves to behold certain Games and exercises to be performed by the young Gentlemen: which was running, wrantling, and divers other exercises for tryall of the strength and nimblenesse of the body: among the rest, Ornatus (having never before made tryall of himself) had such good successe, and behaved himself with such agility and strength, that he won the chieff honour, and was presented before the Duke, to receive a rich rewaird.

Which when he had received, casting his eyes upon the beholders, he espied Artesia, whom he perseealy knew again, ready to depart with her Parents, who had bidden the Duke farewell. Ornatus comming to Phylastes, asked if he knew that Damzell, shewinge him Artesia, who told him what she was.

Ornatus was glad of that small knowledge, which could add little meane to his hopes, yet somewhat discontented, that she was daughter to Arbastus. And thus the day being ouerd, every one departed to their shodes.

Ornatus having again attained his Chamber, spent his time of rest in sundry cogitations of his love, and how he might have knowne

Ornatus and Artefia.

knowledg of his affection, noting every danger, and pondering how discontentedly his parents would take the same, if it should by any means come to their knowledge, he apprehended so many lets to hinder him, that he was oftentimes in utter despair of attaining to the least hope of god successe. But finding his affection to increase more and more, and burning with a fervent desire, which nothing but only her favour could extinguish, he passed away many melancholy hours labouring by all means possible to arrive to the accomplishment of his purposes.

After that night was past, early the next morning, he wanded towards the place where he had beheld her with such exceeding content, and by the way as he went, he met with a Gentlewoman, named Adellena, of mean birth, and small living, yet of god education, who oftentimes resorted to Arbatus house, and was going therer at that instant, into whose company he insinuated himself, for that he saw her alone, and said as followeth.

Gentlewoman, I am bold to intreat a word or two with you. Sir (replied she) with a god will. I will satisfie you in what I can. Know you not (quoth he) Arbatus? I do (quoth she) both know him and am very well acquainted with him, unto whose house I am now going. So would I (quoth he) if I durst; for I serve Ornatus, son to Allinus, whom I do not doubt but you know well, of whom I will tell you more, but that I fear to commit his secrets to them I know not, and thereby unwillingly do him injury: but wouldest you vouchsafe but to hear them, and to keep them secret, and with all, add your help so to further them, which you may with safety performe you should do him an exceeding pleasure, and withall be so highly rewarded, and thankfully gratified, that you shall think your labour very well imployed, do a deed of pitty, and bind him in perpetuall bands of kind love and friendship.

Sir (replied Adellena) I know not the Gentleman, yet I have heard him very much commended, whom if I could any way pleasure, I would use both diligence and secrecie, promising you upon my faith and credit, if you will make me acquainted with your mind, I will either do my god will to further him, or else conceale what you shall commit to my pivity.

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Then said he, my master not long since walking in yander
valley beheld Artesia, faire Artesia, Daughter to Arbaltus, to
whose beauty he is so exceedingly intahalled, that unlesse some
meanes of comfort bee found to eas his tormentes, I fear me it
will endanger his life: whom you only may pleasure by making
his love knowne to her, in such sort as shall best agree with your
wisedome. This is all, and yet so much, that the revealing there-
of may do much harm. And to effect such a contract, might pro-
cure peace and unity betwixt their Parents. Therefore I entreat
your aid and furtherance herein: with which good news, if I re-
turn to him, I know it wil bred no little comfort to his disquieted
heart.

Sir, said sh: , since I perceive his love is grounded upon
virtue not drawn thereto by any desire of reward, I undertake
to be his assistant herein, and will to the uttermost of my best
endeavours, labour to procure his content, which this day I
will in some part put in execution. And if you return to me to
morrow, you shall know her answer, I will (said he) and so they
departed.

Ornatus having left her entred into many cogitations of this
rash attempt, accounting himself over credulous to commit
his secrets to her privity, of whose fidelity he had never made tri-
all, sometimes comforting himself with hope of good event, and a-
gain dispairing of comfort for that he supposed, Artesia would ra-
ther esteem him as an enemy then as a friend; by reason of their
parents hatred, and therefore would the more hardly be drawn to
give any credit to his sake. And revolving a Chaos of these & such
like confused cogitations, he attained his fathers house thinking
the the time tedious untill his appointed meeting with Adelena;
who after her departure from him soon arrived at Arbaltus house
and using herself as she had faynly done yet careful how to re-
ceive the charge she had in hand (which she could by no occasion utter
till after dinner) she found Artesia all alone in the garden, having
intimated herself into her company, which Artesia kindly accept-
ed, she entered into variety of discourses, and continued sometime
in glisting certain herbs their proper names, amongst the rest
Artesia

Artesia espyng an heare with party couloured leaves, demanded of Adellena if she knew the name therof, which she told her, she did not. I have oftentimes quoth Artesia I seen this heare, and it hath two pretty names, it is by some called Love in Idlenesse and by some Hearts ease: with that Adellena fetcht a deep though countefit sigh, which Artesia noting said: What maketh you sigh to hear it named Hearts ease? Harry (quoth she) one way, because those two names so ill agree: another, for by the same I call to remembraunce the hearts grief. I heard a young man complain of, procured by love, which was not in Idlenesse, but I think in good earnest. Whyn quoth Artesia can love procure such hearts grief to any, and not rather content? Yes said she, because the party in love, hath no hope to attain the godliking of the party he loveth. Then quoth Artesia, I account him a fool, that wil love so deeply without hope of reward, and that to bee rather fondnesse then true friendship, where affections are placed with such inequalities. But I pray tell mee, what is hee into whose secrets you were so suddenly admitted? Not admitted (quoth shee) of unawares. I heard his complaints, which afterwards, I promised him not to make any acquainted withall, but the party whom he so intirely loveth. Then (quoth Artesia) I may not know neither do I care, for it is but a vanity that troubleth ones cogitations. Yes (quoth she) you may, and shall if you please, know who. Yet by conditionally, you will neither be offended with me, for telling you, nor reveal what I shall impart. Whyn quoth shee Sir, I the party or doth it any way concern me, that I shalbe informed? If it be, then keep your counsels unrevealed, for it will grieve me very to my remarc, for be it far from me, to be troubled with the paines of vying lovers: yet let me answer (q. Adellena) you bear to me grievous a conceit of love, which is the divine party wherby hearts are unitid in vertue. Without the which, neither man nor beast can attain heaven, nor other creatures have their being; therefore not to be abhorred: and for that any should love your self, can that be any offence to you, but rather be accepted in kind say? We shalbe by nature love them that love us, then will you wonder to nature, yea and hatred for love? For you indeed are the party

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party that is beloved, and the party that is so far in love with you every way to be commended, whose name, I will not reveal, and then I hope I shall breed no offence to your eares. Do so (quoth Artesia, for concealing the same you will please me, and if you will be welcome into my company use no more of these speeches. Had I thought (quoth she) they would have been offensive, I would not have uttered them, but in so doing, I did but fulfill your request: then at my request again (quoth she) gives over. After this communication ended, they parted, Adellena home to her house, and Artesia to her supper, and afterwards to her chamber, where at first, some cold thoughts of these speeches, past in her fancy, but afterwards she spent the rest of that night in quiet sleep.

CHAP. III.

How Adellena conveyed Ornatus letter into Artesiaes Casket, and with what impatience Artesia took the same.

He Morning being newly apprached, Ornatus who had so long expected the same, arose and soone got to Adellenas house, where hee arrivved before she was up, who having knowledge thereof, soone came down to him, (taking him to be no other then Ornatus his man) to whom she declared the very truth of all her speeches had with Artesia. Which nipt him at the heart: but receiving some hope by her persuasions, hee was yet a partie full fraught with gould, in recompence of her past paines, and to entice her to undertake more, he said as followeth. Good Artesia, be not dismayed to prosecute my sake, for Adellena, sirr known, for I am not Ornatus man, but poor Ornatus all am I, and my selfe a wretched and clowdy cyphir of the humblest

himſelf, that languiſh with deſire to attain her loſe, which I would my ſelf proſecute, iſ the diſcord between our parents did not hinder the ſame. Therefore, I beſeech you once again do ſomething in my behalſ, for you ſe hould cruell deſting hath ſhut me from all meaſs to be put in praſtie by my ſelf, and you may pleaſure me without any hazard at al: for which I wil reſt ſo thankful unto you, as that you thal account your paіns taken well beſtowed.

Sir, replied ſhe, I would undertake any thing to further you iſ I knew which way, but I perceive Arteſiaes froiwordneſſe iſ ſuſh, that nothing I ſhall bring her will be welcome: but iſ you wil aduice me what I ſhall do, I wil once again haſzard the loſe of her good liking for your ſake. Which ſaid, Ornatuſ wrote a Letter, which he deſired her by ſome meaſs to conveiy to her ſight, the conteinſ whereof were theſe.

To the faireſt Arteſia.

FAIREſt of creatures, be not offendid with my boldneſſe, but rather favourably eniuie of my good meaſhing, for being bound to honour none but moſt vertuous, I thought it my duty to give you knowledge thereof, deſiring you to pity the extremity of my paſſions, procuraſ by the atrainder of your conqueſting perfections, I confeſſe you may alledge many things, as reaſons to diſſuade you from giving credit to my ſpeeches, or yielding me the leaſt favour in your coneeits: yet I beſeech you to make but triall of my loyaltie, love, and duty, ſo farre as thall agree with your liking, and you ſhall find me conſtant in the one and perfeverant in the other, as one that hath ſubmiſſed himſelfe to your command, vowed his devoſtions to purchase your favor, and everlaſtingly bound himſelfe to be onely your ſervable to expell my humble meaſhing, unwilliing to be offeſſive, and deſirous of favor. I beſeech you to be fauourable to me, thought bearing the naue of an enemy, in whom you ſhall find the true heart of a conſtant friend, whole ſafety comfort and pſeſeruation reſteſt in your power. The firſt view of your beauy

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beauty (which was in the valley when you were last hunting) surprized my heart with such humble regard to your vertues, that ever since my heart hath indured the bitter torments of fearfull dispair, which urgeth me to this presumptious desiring from your sacred lips to receive my sentence of comfort or affliction, rather then to spend my life in languishing by an unrevailed torment. Then be you gracious to him, that is otherwise most miserable, and shew favour to an undeserving unknowne friend: so shall you not only shew, that you are mercifull, but also save a miserable Lover from utter ruine.

Your humble friend,

Ornatus.

Adellena having received this Letter, told him, she would deliver the same: which the next day shee performed in this sort. Being come to Arctias house, she continued most part of the day in Arctias company, not once venting the least remembrance of the talk she had with her the day before: but espying her open her Casket, wherein she put her work, whilst Arctia was busie, she privily conveyed the letter, unseen, into the same, which by and by Arctia locked for none but her self had the use thereof.

Adellena thought long till she was gone, fearing least Arctia should upon some occasion open the Casket again, and so find the Letter while she was there; therefore she soon found means to depart. When the time of rest was come, and Arctia alone in her bed, taking a Book (according to her usual manner) to read a while, she suddenly fell a sleep, and in her sleep was possest with a dream, wherein her thoughts called to remembrance Adellenaes speeches, which moved such a disquiet conceit of anger in her Breast, that thinking she had chid her, with the motions of her spirit she awakes, feeling a distemperature in all her parts and

and seeing the light still burnynge she maruelled at her drowsynesse, that had before forgot to put the same out, and by this means called to remembrance Adellenes speches, marueling what he shuld be that was so in love with her; and suddenly againe reproving her selfe for giving her mind liberty to think of love, she woulde have banisht all further remembrance thereof out of her mind: but the more she laboured, the more unables she was to prevail in over-maistering her fancies, that being both vexed with her selfe and Adellen, she uttered these speches:

What disquiet is this posseseth my heart, and procureth such unwonted cogitations to rise in my fancies and disturbeth my rest? I was not wont to trouble my thoughts with such vain cogitations, which the more I labore to supprese, the more they increase.

Could Adellenes speches have such foys which I had well nigh forgotten? as thus long to stick in my remembrance? O, what reason have I to regard them, that were not worth the regarding, but rather tended to demonstrate the affection of some over-fond lover, that seeketh to entrap my Chastity? Accursed be her lips for uttering them, and would to God I had bin deaf, that I might not have heard their inchanting sound.

This said, she caught up her Book, thinking by reading, to drive away all remembrance thereof, but her heart was so fully possesst with a kind of cogitation what he shuld be, that she neither could read or when she had read remember what she did read: and finding this means not available, she started from her bed, opening the Casket to take out her Sampler, wherein she took most delight, when suddenly she espied the Letter and bearing the superscription, was half astonisched thereat, especially how it shoulde come there, and what the contents shoulde be, being oftentimes to in minde the same in pieces, and not to read it, which her heart would not suffer her to do, before she had seen what was the contents: yet striving to overmaster her affections, she tare the same in the middesse which

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which done, such a remisse rose in her fancy, unites with a desire to know further thereof, that leaping into the bed, she closed the same together, and betwixt a willing and unwilling mind, read the same throughout. With that, fetching a deep sigh, she said: Ay my poor soul, how are my affections betrayed to mine enemy? was it Ornatus she meant? can it be, that he will prove my friend, that is my professed enemy? Do not he intendeth nothing lesse then love, but rather under colour thereof seeketh my ruine. Was it he, that I beheld in the valley? or is it possible he should be so deeply in love with me, upon that small sight? No, no; I will not credit his speeches but still repute him as an enemy, as indeed he is; and henceforth abandon Adellenaes company, by whose means this letter was conveyed into my Casket: then tearing the same into a thousand pieces, she abstained (so near as she could) from all thought of yielding the least consent to love, and sought to increase her disdain and suspect of his falsehood, spending the rest of that night in confused contrarieties of doubtfull thoughts. Early in the morning she gat up, and within short time met with Adellena (who was come, and desirous to know what issue her device had taken) and finding occasion fit when none was by, she uttered these speeches.

Adellena, I marvell what folly ruleth your mind, that you (whom I had thought had been so virtuously given) should seek my ruine: wherein have I shewn my self so discourteous, that you should requite me in this discourteous sort? You remember the speeches past betwixt us the other day in the Garden, when I finding out your intent by your speeches, desired you to give over to use any more talk to that effect; which you faithfully promised, but now most unsaithfully have broken, and more impudently have betrayed my quiet with your disquiet, and ill-sounding news: if your rudeness hath been such, that you could not desist, you might then have delivered Ornatus false and feigned enchantment into my hands, and not so secretly have conveyed the same into my Casket: wherein you have made me an ends for my love, to seek to betray my life into

into the hands of mine enemy: for otherwise, I neither can nor will esteem him. Therefore henceforwards come no more into my company, for I forswear your familiarity, hate your counsell, and wil cause my father banish you his hou're, and alienate his friendship from you for ever.

Adelena would have answere: but Artesia refusing to hear her, departed, and left her so much grieved, that for extreame vexation she immedately departed towards her own house.

C H A P. IIII.

How Orthatus dispairing, left his fathers house, and disguising himself was entertained of Arbastus.



Rnat's desirous to hear how Artesia had accepted his letter, came to Adelenas house, and found her weeping for anger: desirring to know the cause thereof, which she declared to him at large: Which brought such an exceeding passion of grief in his mind, y' wout yielding her either thaks for her pains, or other speach he departed, being so much overcome with inward sorrow, that finding a solitarie place, he laid himself down upon the earth, uttering these lamentations,

O miserable Catife! what hast thou to do, but lament, when thy ill fortune yeelds nothing but cause of lamentation? Whys should thy life last to endure these tormentes, and not rather to dissolve into unseyn essences? Could any thing have hymned to me more miserable, then to behold Artesia, & now to endure her cruelty? or more fortunate, if she had been mercifull? But my Destinies have drawn me, to like her that hateth me, and to become a thrall to a cruell unrelenting enemy. Well, my love is swifter then my life, and therefore I will venture life and all, to purchase her liking.

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Having said this, he a while sat silent, when suddenly to favour his extremities he beheld certain of his familiars passe by, with whom he departed home.

Early the next morning being exceedingly troubled in mind and impatient of delay, he left his fathers house to visit Adellena againe, whom he had the day before left so unkinly: whom he found ready to go to Arbaus house, and saluting her said. Adellena be not offended at my last unmanerly departure: for my heart was so much disquieted at the ill successe my sute took, that I could not use that behaviour toward you, your pains deserved: but now, I am returned to crave your counsell what is further to be done herein.

Sir, replied she. I know not what further means to use, neither dare I any more attempt to try Archesas courtesie; who is already so much offended with me, that I fear to loose her friendship for ever, if I should utter that again that is so unwelcome to her.

Ornatus hearing her speeches, thought she was unwilling to prosecute his sute any further, and with a heavy heart left her, entring into many thoughts, which way to comfort himself, oftentimes bitterly despairing, and yet purposing to leave no means untried, nor danger unattempted, though with hazard of his life to purchase some rest to his troubled heart.

At length he thought with himself, What shoud make Archesa so hard-hearted, as to give no credit to my speeches? it is not her want of lenity, pitty, or wisedome: for she is young, and therefore subject to love; beautifull, and therefore to be won: wife, and therefore will with consideration pity my sorrows. What then shoud alienate her good liking from me more then from another? My name; for by that, she reputeth me an enemy: then were I not Ornatus she would peradventure give some regard to my sute. Therefore, I will change my name and be another then I am, that she not knowing me, may (if not love me) yet desist to hate me. Then began he to study, what means to use to enjoy her sight

Ornatus and Artesia.

light (without the which, he could not live) & yet not be known what he was. Amongst many other devices, this took deepest root. Within few days after (having provided all things necessary) he attired himself like a virgin of a strāge country (which he might well be esteemed to be, by his youth) and taking with him his Lute whereon he could play exceedingly well, in the silent of the night, he departed towards the Sea-coast, which was neer unto Arbasius house, and seating himself upon the rocky shōre began to play upon his Lute. Early the next morning a Shepheard hapned to passe by that way, and espying his strange disguise, and hearing his sweet Musick, was so exceedingly delighted therewith, that he staid to see what he was.

Ornatus turning himself about espied the old man stand gazing upon him; wherewith he drew towards him & said as followeth.

Good Father vuse not to see me in this unfrequented place bring by shipwack cast on this shōre, and preserved frō a grievous death by sea to perish for want of comfort on the land in a strange place, where I neither have friends, nor know which way to get comfort: Therfore I beseech you, yeeld comfort to my distresse, and succour to my want. Fair damzell (quoth the Shepheard) if my homely Cottage can yeeld you any comfort, so please you to accept thereof, it shall be at your comand whether so please you go, without more circumstance of speeches, you shall be most heartily welcome. I thank you (quoth Ornatus, and I accept your gentle proffer: so they departed together, and when they were entred and the Shepheardesse in the best manner she could, had welcomed him, and he had tasted of such food as was set before him, he told them, his name was Silvia, telling a tale of sufficient countenance to bear credit, of the manner of their shipwack, and the cause he undertook that voyage by sea: Which the old folks believed. Likewise framing himself to such a kind of behaviour, that it was almost impossible to discern, but that he was a woman indeed.

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Where Silvia (for under that name he shall a while passe)
stayed some two dayes, yet without any hope how to enjoy Ar-
teliaes company. But the third day it fortuned Arbasus being
abroad in hunting, was by a violent storm driven to seek shel-
ter, and most fortunately lighted on the Shepheards Cottage
where he bold ly entred without calling, and suddenly espying
Silvia, was half astonished to behold a damzell so beautifull and
richly attyzed, in that homely place: but after that he had a
while viewed her well (Silvia being alone) with a courteous
behaviour he thus spake.

Fair Damzell, pardon my boldnesse, if I have disquieted
you: I little thought to have found such guests in this home-
ly place. Silvia knowing him to be Arbasus, arose, but made him
no answer: when presently the old Shepheard came in, asking
great reverence to Arbasus: who demanded of him, what dam-
zell that was? Whereupon the old man declared all that he
knew.

Arbasus then thus said: Damzell, I understand by this
Shepheard some part of your misfortunes, which I so much
pity, that I offer to do any thing resteth in me, to do you plea-
sure: And for that this homely place is not agreeable to your
birth, which may be greater then I can judge of, let me desire
you to accept of such entertainment, as my habitation yeldeth,
whither you shal be welcome. Silvia being glad of that proffer,
yet fearing to be discovered by her willingnesse to yeld, made
this answer. Sir, this homely place is best agreeing to my pur-
eitate, being by my fortune brought to misery, which I am also
unworthy of, for that I know not how to make my host ameds,
desiring rather to live in this quiet place, void of care, then in
places of more dignity: but for y I shal be too chargeable to this
poor man, and you so earnestly desire me, I will be so bold as to
take your proffer, though unmeable to be so grateful as I would.
Many other speeches passe betwix them, and in the end they
departed towards Arbasus Castle; where Silvia was kindly and
worthily entertaines, having his hearts desire, which was to
enjoy the sight of fair Artelia.

Ornatius

Ornatus being alone by himself, began to meditate on the good successe he had in this attempt, and how fortunately all things had fallen out to further him in his love. But most of all her marchioness had the eyes of all that beheld him were blinded, & they could not perceive what he was. In these and many such like comfortable meditations, he spent some three or four days, taking such great content in beholding Artesias perfections, that he was more and more intchalled in the bands of boyled affection, by hearing of her speech, noting her behavioz, admiring her vertus, commending her courtesie, affecting her beauty, & imputting each lineament of her divine form in his devotest affection, with such immovable resolute of constat loyalty, that he did not only love her, but also honor her as an Idoll, being by Arbastus admitted her company, that at all times he was with her. Artesia likewise took no little pleasure in Silviaes company, in whom somuch courtesie abounded, that every one both liked and commended her.

CHAP. V. How Adelena brought newes to Arbastus house of Ornatus sudden departure. How he naming himself Silvia, a long time enjoyed her company, and what successe he had in his love.



Adelena having heard of Ornatus departure from his fathers house, and of the exceeding grief and care his parents took, fearing least he might by some treachery be murthered, she brought the newes to Arbastus house, and soon published the same, which came to Arbastus hearing, who was exceedingly sorry to hear the same, so that he esteemed well of Ornatus. And now comming into his chamber, where Artesia was walking with Silvia, Adelena

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withhold her self from speaking, but uttered her mind in these
wordes.

Arctia be not offended with what I say, but rather be dis-
pleased with your self, who art the originall of this woe.
Ornatus whom you supposed your enemy, though indeed your
most fauorit friend. taking your unkind refusall most
heavily, and accounting himself not worthy to live if you des-
pised him, either hath wrought his owne untimely death, or
dispairing to find fauour at your hands, hath abandoned both
his Parents, country, and acquaintance, to live in exile.
What will be said of you, when the cause of his sorrow shall
be known? how may your own conscience accuse your self
of hard heartednesse, that would not yield pitty to the distresse
of so worthy, vertuous, and courteous a Gentleman, who for
his humble suit, was spightfully disdained, and his hearty
good will disdainfully rejected? Which cruell deede of yours,
no doubt will one day be repayed with the like disdain, where-
you shall most affeet. I know his love was firm, constant,
and immovable, which maketh me so much the more pitty
his estate: I know his meaning was both honourable and
vertuous; his birth you know: what vertues abounded in
him, all can witnesse, and how heartily he loved you the hea-
vens can witnesse. **Woo.** Ornatus farewell: Hard was thy
hap to place thy true love so firmly, where thou reapedst so lit-
tle reward. Arctia hearing her speches, could not tell whether
she might blame her, or accuse her self: sometimes doubting
whether she spake this of policy to try her, or of truth, being as
ready to blame her, as to excuse her self, sometimes doubting
that: For she thought, if she spake true, she had good cause to say
that she did, and her self more to be blamed then any. For
notwithstanding she had given Adelona so flat a denial, yet
her conscience dwelt that some sparkes of love were stabled in
her heart. In somuch that her heart being somewhat vexed
to these thoughts, caused the water to stand in her ey. Ornatus
seeing all this, took no litle comfort therat, especially when
perceaved Arctias heart to relent: but by reason of this his
guise, being knowne by no other then a woman, hee was
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when I am he would have spoken, but feared least he should discover himself. Adelena seeing she had disquieted Arctea, being her self full of grief, and unwilling to urge any further, departed. And Arctea with her self from Silvias company, into an Arbour, uttered these speeches: and can it be that Ornat's love was so great, that for the sake he hath done these. Could he love her so constantly, that was his professed enemy: is love of such a force to draw one into these extrems? Then may I compare it to the herb Acas, found in Persia, which being but holden in the hand, causeth a heat throughout all the body: so love but entertained in thought disquieteth all the senses. But why do I conceive so well of Ornat, when I know not the truth of Adellenas report: it may be he hath hired her to do this, and thereby I may be deceived, yet loving so pitifully when there is no cause, and with the Bird Akanthus, ready to come at every call. Admit it were so, I am not bound to labour him, for is he my enemy, and son to my fathers chiefe foe: what reason then have I either to give credit to his love, or her protestation, when both may be feigned: well, I will be advised, before I yield my self to loves entangling baits, and before I let her with knowledge of her. But Arctea her fancy yeeldeth her self alreadie, and the concomitance bids thee pitiful him because he loveth thee, for love in a reputed enemy, may be as constant and loyall as in an open friend, and an enemy becoming a friend will be the more constant. Then what hast thou to do but make further proofe of his constancy. and finding him true yeeld rewarde to his effort: lost Arctea, I mean not so far: grant he be constant, loyall, and love thee so unitley, yet now thou hast made him forsake his country, and peraduerters hast procured his untimely death, there is nothing else to be done for thee but to pitie his misery, and accuse the wrongs of this great discouertie. All this while Ornat is yowling, and fall from her sight, by the chichetts of the green leaves, heard her speeches, to his exceeding comfort, and againe closly imbrace himself. Arctea having ended her speeches, her heart being opprest with many doubls, went and came to Silvia, to whom she said: my mind is much troubled with the news

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Adelena told me of Ornatus absence, whom, so that you know not, I will tell you what he was.

There dwelleth not farre hence one Alinus, that moste
hateþ my father, and all that belong unto him, whose soone
Ornatus was, whom if I shoulde torment, you might thinke
me too cruell to refuse his to be so unkindly, only thus much I
will say of him, he was every way worthy to be beloved,
though my fancy could never be drawn to like of him: who
vpon what occasion I know not, but as Adelena told mee,
made his love knowne vnto her, which she likewise told me of:
but I refusing to heare her, answered her plainly, that I
was greatly offended with her, for making any such motion,
and forbad her so; ever to speake of him againe. But now
this day you haue heard what she hath told me, which I can
hardly believe to be true, or that Ornatus would be so rash
without vndeone to enter into such extreames. But if it be so
(as I woulde it were not) it grieveth me for him: and I woulde
that I had not refused to heare his soule: though I am not willing
to yeeld thereto: for I woulde not haue it said of me, nor
have my name so much blazoned that my enemye practised him that
extremity, though his wilfullnes might haue forseen such mis-
chefe, and more moderately haue tempered his loue.

Ornatus taking occasion said: I neither knowe the Oracle-
man nor hold constant his loue was, but thus much my mind
peruadeth me, that he not his loue bin great, he woulde not
have grinded in much at your unkindnesse: but loue is of this
sorte, that it turneth the mind into extreames, so utterly break-
eneth the heart: which force he like it had to him, else woulde
he not haue done him selfe so much harmes. But it may be (as
you say) Ornatus hath not done himselfe outrage, but hath a-
bandoning company, liveth in despaire and so meaneth fodeye:
whiche if it be so, then in my fancy, you might doe well to let
him by some meane understand that you did pitie him. So dy
theres, quoth Arcelia, you must first know, whether I can doe
it, or no: for if I shoulde say, I pitie with my lips, and he not
find it so it woulde drise him to more despaire: and therfore I
will leave off to doe that, untill I can finde whether I can do
it, or no.

The

Whose her speeches wate Ornatvs into a perplexed doubt
what to thinke, being no way assured of her loue, nor yet utterly
despairing thereof, for that her speeches gavē likelihood of
both. Therefore he durst not speake too boldly, least she should
suspect him, but only rested in god hope to find comfort, and by
other meanes to try her.

There taking his Lute, he began to play so sweetly, as
would have ravishē a comfortlesse minde, with great content :
soe heare which Harmony, pleased Artesia so well, that when
he left, she would request him, calling him Sylvia, to play againe.
Whilst he late playing, Artesia setting close by his
side, fell fast asleepe : which he perceiving, left off his play, to
surset himselfe with beholding her sweete beautie, in which he
tooke such delight, as almost ravishē his sences ; sometimes
thinking whilſt she slept, to imprint a kisse upon her sweet
ruddie lippe ; but fearing thereby to wake her, and losſe that
delightful contemplation, he desisted : beholding each part of
her visible forme, which was most divine, his minde was af-
fected with inward contemplation, what perfection her hidden
beauties did comprehend, whitch his fancy persuaded him, he
did absolutely contemplate. Then seeing her stree, he suddenly
catcht his Lute againe, striking his sweet notes to continue
her in that stumber, and then againe laying by the same, to
enter into his former contemplation, he compares his delight
to exceed all heavenly joy ; and wishing, though Artesia could
not love him, yet that she would alwayes grant him so to be-
hold her.

When he had a good while continued in these Meditati-
ons, Artesia awoke, which somewhat grieved him ; but when
he beheld her beautious eyes fixed upon him, he thought him-
selfe enriched with a heavenly happiness : To whom Artesia
sayd : I thankes thee good Sylvia : for thy sweete spuckles hath
somewhat easid my heart, by this quiet sleepe. O, what con-
tent do they enjoy, that live boies of care : and how happy
was I, before I heard Ornatvs Name. With that she a-
rose, and they together went in, when night approached,
(which Ornatvs thought to come to soone, for by that, he must
lose

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siac's sight) every one betook themselves to their severall lodgings.

Ornatus, studying what means to use, to further his love, wherein he found many difficulties: sometimes, in thinking Artesia was in hope never to hear of him again; and sometimes supposing she did pity him. And being overcome with contrarieties of doubts, he uttered these complaints:

What shold I do to procure my content: when my miseries are one way great, and my joies as exceeding; when my despair exceedeth, and yet my comfort abundeth? I enjoy Artesia's love, and yet not her love; I enjoy her sight, and yet not her sight: I have as much comfort, as filleth me with joy, and yet I am desperate with despair. How can that be? She loveth me as I am Silvia, but hateth me, because she loveth not Ornatus: Under the name of Silvia, I enjoy her sight, but not as Ornatus, and so am I deprived of her sight: I reap exceeding comfort by beholding her beauty; but I live in despair, that she would shun love, if she knew what I were. Though I enjoy many things, by being Silvia, yet I am deprived of all comfort, as being Ornatus: For she deemeth him either dead, or tied, having no hope ever to see him: and if I should shew any sign that he were living, or near, she would presently eschew my company, which, being as I am, I may enjoy. And thus am I void of all means of attaining her love; yet living as I am, I shall still enjoy her love.

Why Ornatus thou hast better means to give her knowledge of thy love in this disguise, than if thou lovedst as Ornatus. Suppose thou shouldest make known to her what thou art, thinkest thou she would betray thee, considering thou offerest no other behaviour towards her, than that which agreeth with vertue? Or what if she did betray thee? were thou not better to endure the greatest extremity by her done, then pine away with grief in her absence? Yes Ornatus, in being as thou art, thou art more happy, and therefore mayest thou be in some better hope of comfort. What if she will not love thee? yet for the good will she cannot hate thee: And thou,

thoagh she know what thou art, she will rather conceal thee, then betray thee. Then try whether she loveth thee or no: but howe make my self knowne? No, I will write a letter, which I will leave in some place, where she may find it, and by that means I shall see whether she will love or no. And taking pen ink, and paper, he wrote as followeth.

To the most vertuous Artefia, the forsaken.

Ornatus sendeth humble

greetings

V V Ere you but so mercifull as fair, I would not despair of pity;

Or were you willing to know my truth and loyalty, you would (thoagh not yeld to my suit, yet) pity me. I cannot use protestations, nor dissemble grief: but be you most assured, that what proceedeth out of my lips, commeth from my heart. Extremity maketh me over bold, and despair maketh me more desperate, in uttering my mind: I cannot chuse but say I love you, for that I love indeed. I cannot set forth my love with filed terms: but in plain teach protest, that my love is constant, loyal, vertuous, and immoyable; and though you hate, yet I must love; and though you for ever deny to love, yet will I persist in constancy, for the worst I can endure is death: and that my soul alreadie inwardly feeleth. I have forsaken my Parents, Friends, and all, to become acceptable to you; for whilst I was Allitus son, you did hate me: then I beseech you, now that I am not Allitus son, nor Ornatus, pity me; For without your pity I die, and little can my death profit you, but letting me live, you shall for ever enjoy a faithfull servant. So most vertuous Artefia, I committ my cause to your wise consideration,

Yours inseparably, neither Ornatus nor ornatus son will part from himself, but your poor

servant.

Wher

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When he had written this Letter, & sealed the same, the next morning he laid it in a place of the Garden, where he knew Artesia would walk: And from thence, coming to her chamber, he found her ready to go forth.

Artesia welcomed Silvia kindly, and forth they went together, and walking up and down a pretty while, Artesia espied the white Paper, and desirous to see what it was, took it up, reading the Superscription, marvelling what the contents should be, and how it should come there; and turning to Silvia, said: See you this Letter: it is directed to me, I marvell how it should come here, unless it were laid of purpose: well, howsoever it be, I will read the contents, and you shall be partaker of them. When she had read the same, and well understood that it was Ornatus, at the first, she was vexed, that she said: I now perceive, that Ornatus was wiser then I took him to be; for I see he hath committed no outrage upon himself, but wisely will try me first: and if I will not yield to lobs him, what will he do? Harry return to his father again. This is a dellenes doing, and according as I thought, they are agreed: she left this letter here, and her I may blame, and not him: For had not she promised him to do it, he would never of himself have attempted it. Silvia I pray thee counsel me what I should do herein, for my heart is oppressed with many thoughts, that I will not utter till I know thy mind.

Silvia thus answered: Since you have given me licence to speak that which my heart thinketh: first I say, if Ornatus loveth according as he protesteth, as no doubt he doth, you have good reason to pity him, for that by your own report, he is every way worthy thereof: which if you do, you shall be sure of a constant friend, preserve his life, and make unity betwixt your Parents. As for Adelena, if it were her dooing, she did but the part of a friend, but it is very unlikely, for that she was not here since yesterday. Neither can I think any man can dissemble so much, as to make these protestations, and yet be false: for his wades, in my fancy, bear an evident likelihood of truth. Therefore,

if I may counsell you, yeld to that which is vertuous, and in so doing you shall purchase your own good, his content, and perpetuall quiet to both your families.

Would you have me then (quoth she) yeld to love mine enemy: how is he your enemy (quoth Silvia) when he loveth you? He is mine enemy, because his father hating me, how can he love me? Nay rather (quoth Silvia) his Father not loving you, how can he chuse but love you, because he saith them hate you, that are worthy to be beloved: besides, their hatred being unjust, it sheweth his vertue the more, to love those his Parents hate: and it is commonly seen, where there is hatred betwixt the Parents, the children have loved most dearly, as in common experience it is seen: have you not read the Histories of Pyramus and Thysby, Romeo and Juliet, and many other; whose love was the more constant, by so much the more their parents hatred was deadly.

I remember such histories (quoth Artesia) but what was the end of their love: was it not most miserable? I grant it was (quoth Silvia) which was procured by their Parents cruelty, but not their Love; wherein notwithstanding, they took such felicity, that they rather chose to dy together, then to be parted: which argueth, that the enmity betwixt Parents, connot break off love betwixt the Children; yet might such tragical events have been prevented by wise-dome. But howe know I (said Artesia) whether Ornatus love be so constant, or no? Can you have any greater proof thereof then his own letters, the forsaking of his Parents, and living peradventure in penury? But if you doubt of that, once again try him. Well (said Artesia) I asked but thy counsell, but instead thereof thou usest perswasion: but seeing thou art so forward to do me good, which I hope is thy intent, if thou wilt keep my counsell, thou shalt knowe both my mind, and what I intend. Assure your self (quoth Silvia) I wil rather lose my life then prove unfaithfull. Then (said she) I confess to this Silvia, that love hath made entrance into my heart, that I would willingly both pitie Ornatus, grant him his request:

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for that with often remembryng him, I cannot forget him, neither doth any thought please me, but when I think of him. But there are so many slips to hinder our love, that though I love him, I shall never enjoy him.

For shold my Parents know thereof, they would pay sa warty into my actions, that it were impossible for me once to have a sight of him, whom I do scarce remember, I have so seldom seen him. You may (qd. Silvia) both love him, and enjoy him: and since you have begun to like of him, he being won therof, and equalling you in affection, increase that love, and might I but once come to speake with him, I would not doubt but to effect all things with such sincirity that you shold with quiet enjoy him.

Well (quoth Artesia) I commit all to you, my life, for that dependeth on my love, being willing to do anything that shall not disagree with modesty: Desiring you to keep my counsels secret; for to bewray them may endanger both his and my life.

After many other speeches past betwixt them, Adelena entered the garden. Artesia espying her at the first thus greeted her, Good morrow Adelena, I know not whether I may salute thee as a friend, or a priuy foe, for that by the means I am brought into bondage.

I pray thee tell me without dissembling (which I fear me thou canst do too well) when thou sawest Ornatus, and yet I know thy answer before I ask. Doest thou not know this letter? didst thou not hide it in this Garden, that I might finde it? did not Ornatus hire thee to say, that he was departed from his fathers house, while he lieth at home in the house? I know thy answer will be, no, but how may I believe that doest thou not likewise say he loveth me when thou knowest the contrary, and doest but dissemble? If thou harbourest any veretur in this, tell me the truth and dissemble not, for in doing so, thou shal greatly content me, discharge thy conscience, and peradventure do Ornatus a good turn.

Adelena hearing her speeches, was so astonisht at these strangeness, that for a good while she stood as one fencellef but

but at the last she made this answere: Your demands are such as that I know not how to answer them; but heavens punish me if I dissentible: I saw not Ornatus since the time he came to me, to know how you accepted this letter which I conveyed into your Casket. For that letter, I am altogether ignorant, neither did I ever see the same before now: I never spake with Ornatus, saw Ornatus, or heard from him, since I last gave him your answer: neither know I where he is: but this I know, that he is not to be found, but poor Gentleman largelie in love. And I dare protest he loveth you most dearely: neither need you misdoubte, that he is absent or hidden at my house: for it is to true, he hath taken such grief at your unkindnesse, as will I fear me endanger his life. I would it were not so, but th't he were at my house; then would I counsell him rather to forget to love, then endanger his life thereby.

May I believe (quoth Artesia) that this thou sayest is true: Heavens let me live no longer (quoth Adolena) if I dissentible. Then (quoth Artesia) how should this letter be conveyed into this Garden, but by himselfe: With that the chissall tears fell from her eyes.

CHAP. VI.

How Ornatus love was hindered by the newes of Arbastus death. How Floretus, to attain Silvias love, both confessed he slew Arbastus, and intended to poison Artesia.

Daugment Artesias teares, a Messenger halilie running, came in, and brought this news, uttering the same with a ghastly countenance.

DArtesia, hear my tragick discourse, your farther to your know roote forth this morning to chase the foarfull Deere, who wantring from his company, at last by his

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long stay was mist, and all of us comming together, stableda, mongst our selves what shoudl become of him: at last we were commanded by Floreus your Uncle, to post severall waies in search of him; whom at last we found most grievously wounded, and dead. Arctia hearing his words, with suddaine griefe fell downe dead. Whiche when Sylvia perceiued, he caught her in his armes, rubbing her pale cheekes untill she was revived againe. Then they conveyed her to her Bed, in such extreamity with that suddaine griefe, that they feared the losse of her life, which exceedingly tormented Sylvia to behold. Then was there such an uppaire in Arbastus hou're, as all seemed in utter dispaire, one conjecturing this, another that, of Arbastus death: but all in generall, concluding, that it was done by Allius, in revenge of his brothers death.

Arbastus wife likewise conceived such sorrow at this unexpected event, that with very griefe thereof she dyed. Arctia with both of them was ready to yeld vp her latest breath; and had done so, had she not beens carefully pleserbed by Sylvia, and Adellena: Whiche by their counsells and indeavours, pacified the extreamity of her perplexity. This newes was soon spread into most places of the country: but because there was no just prooofe of the murtherer, there was no great question made thereof. Arbastus having never a trusly friend to prosecute revenge, Floreus now tooke upon him to rule and govern all that belonged to Arbastus, as his brother, and soone caused him and his Lady to be worthily interred, and built a sumptuous Monument in their remembrance. Whiche being over past, he came againe to Arctia, (as in the meane time he had oftentimes done) and finding her very weake, used many speeches to comfort her, giving such as were about her speciall charge, to minister all things necessarie, to restoore her to her former health: Seeming to be most carefull of her Guard, promising and protesting to be unto her in stead of a Father.

Sylvia all this while was exceedingly grieved in minde to see his Love growne so wanke, and in such danger of her life: not

not once forsaking her in all the time of her sicknesse, but continually comforting her with hearty speches, and carefull attendance; not so much as once departing her Chamber, but taking exceeding paines to pleasure her: that shee tooks great comfort in her supposed Sylvia; who often-times would steale a sweete kisse from Artesias Lips: which shee permitted, taking the same to proceed from a courteous minde, when Sylvia did it of depps affection; accounting the estate wherein he lived, to exceed all joyes, and his delight pass compare: poffering many familiarities, that Artesia to kee in hinde part, which otherwise shee would have refuſed, had shee kniwne who her Companion Sylvia had beene.

Ornatvs marbelov, that all this time shee spake not of him: which hee deuided to vrga her to doe, by many occasions; but these Extreamities had banished all remembrance of him out of her minde, whiche exceedingly tormented Ornatvs, fearing, this delay would ſeme way turne to his ill: That whereas before time he was pleasant, and merry, and certaintimes would move Artesia to myth by his diſport; now that humour was alienated, and he became continually melancholly, and ſad: oftentimes, when Artesia was from him, he would get into a ſolitary place, to bewayle his hard fate. whiche ſhe noted, and wondred at, thinking the ſame had proceeded from being ſo leng absent from his own trye & Friends. One day ſhe found her deemeed Sylvia ſolitary alone, and coming unawares heard her utter these wordes: Oh, how unhappy am I, to love, and not to be beloved! Sylvia eſpying her, leſt off, to whom Artesia ſaid:

Why how now Sylvia, are you in love? Can it be, that your Minde is attainted with that benemis Serpent, that poisoneth the Hentes, altereth the Complexion, troubleth the Head and Heart: ſhake it off, and cast it out of your ſight: for it never did any good, but hath brought many to perpetuall miſerie.

Since you have over-heard me (quoth Sylvia) I muſt needs conſeſſe I am in love, which doth not any way make

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are such affect in me, as you speake of: but I take all comfort therein; my senses, heart, heape, and all my parts, take exceeding pleasure theron. ~~W~~hy then quoth Aricia, sit you thus pensively alone, as it seemeth to me bewayling your estate to be in love? I do not (quoth Silvia) sorrow that I am in love, but that I am not beloved again: for being in love, I have helpe to live so sover: and sooner shall my life decay, then forget my love, for with my love, my life shall end. ~~W~~hat hard hearted man (said Aricia) is he, that knowing you love him, will not love you again? Such is my hard estate (said Silvia) that the party whom I do love, knoweth I love, and yet causelessly doth hate me: neither am I farre absent from him, but enjoy his company; without which my life would decay. Is he in this house you lovest? Can it be, you are intangled since you came hither? No (quoth Silvia) I loved before I came hither. How can it be, when you are a stranger, and cast in this country by shipwreck: either you must needes be some other then we take you for, otherwise these things are impossible. But if you darst put feare in my secrecy, impart your mind to me, and I promise you I will do the best I can to further your love. You may do much therein (quoth Silvia) and none more then your self: but I beseech you, pardon me for revealing the same, before you may assure me of one thing which you may do without any harme to your self, and be not offended with me, if I ask you. Tell me what it is (quoth she) and I will answer you. Then (said Silvia) I would farr know whether you love Ornatvs, or no? ~~W~~ith that she started, saying: Ah me, that name bringeth death to my heart, and thou woundest my soul with grief to hear him named. Dost thou think I have cause to love, and not rather above all men to hate him? Dost thou not see my father lately nurthered by him, or some by his appointment; and thinkest thou I can love so deadly a Foe, by whom I am brought to this misery? No, assure thy self Silvia, according as I have just cause, I do hate him, as the greatest ~~E~~ enemy I have: whose very name affrighteth me with terror: and if thou hast loved me, as I was persuadeth thou didst, then

thou shouldest not have troubled my heart with that omnious Name. And yet, for all this mischiefe that he hath done me, didst thou not see how he lived for my love, and had so much prevaile, that my heart began to yield to his suite? With that she pulled out of her pocket the Letter, saying These lines the fruits of his dissimulation, were doers in the willians of my Fathers mother, with that she tore them into a thousand pieces.

Sylvia seeing the same, was ready to weare with greate, and breakeing forth a heart-burning sigh, said O, how is poor Innocents suspected! And being ready to lay aside, was disappointed by Florenus coming, who even then entered the Garden: and finding them out used many chaireis speeches to them both especially concerning Aricia; to whom he said Dear Cousin, since there withap cannot be remedie, of widsome now eves-
way your passionate sorrow, and with patience remit all for-
tho^r griefe; for these things past cure are not to be lamented: but now commit the care of your safety to my custome, that
will astenderly regard your good as mine owne life. There-
fore be of comfort, & whatsoever you wolt shall be to the ulti-
most accomplished. Aricia yelde him many thanks: and so
they went in.

Aricia being alone by her selfe, could by no meanes forget what speech she had with Sylvia: either thinking she did de-
sensible, or was some other then she seemed; or else that she was
in love with Florenus. Then she remembred her speeches saying,
How is Innocents suspected! which she knew he spake by his
accusing of Ornatus: which drawe her into many doubtfull Co-
gitations, & troubled her sences exceedingly: but by reason of her
little suspe of Sylvias disfise, she could not judge any thing
thereof. Sylvia likewise not doting to offend her, & looing her
so dearly, he could not come to los her disfise, vies no more
speeches tending to late, but frequenting her company where in
he had his whole felicity, he accounted himselfe most happy to
live & enjoy her sweete presence, being out of hope to attaine
her late, refreshing his heart with many solaces of sweete Delight
in regarding that joych the little thought he had conceived.

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Many dayes continued Sylvia in this disguise : in which time Arbatus death was almost forgotten : and Floreus, dravone by Sylvia's manifold Vertues, began exceedingly to assest her, vsing such kind behaviour towards her, that she suspected that which afterwards she found most true. For Floreus concealing his love, felt the flame to burne the more inwardly, and living in that scorching tyranny, thought it better so him to manifest his love, then by hiding the same to augment his torment : assuring himselfe to obtaine his desire, soz that Sylvia was a stranger, farre from Friends, and without his friend-ship, likely to come to poverty : which he thought would be meanes of importance, to draw her to like of him : Besides he thought he might doe as he list with Arcesia, soz that she was only in his custody. And on a day, finding Sylvia alone in the alone in the Garde, comming to her with a submissive beha-
viour, he said as followeth :

My deare Sylvia, I would gladly utter a matter of impor-
tance, if you will vouchsafe me gentle audience : So it is,
faire Damosell, that my heart hath long time bene inthal-
led to your Beanty, which I have restrained to utter fearing to
be refused : but knew you how faithfully my heart is devoted
to your service, and with what torment I have concealed the
same, you would pitty me. My estate is sufficient to maintaine
you well, though not so worthy as you deserve : you shall live
with me in contented ease, and haue so faithfull and constant a
friend, as no torment nor affliction shall alter. Therefore
beseech you, let me receive some hope of comfort, by your gen-
tle speeches, which shall expell many cares from my troubled
heart.

Sylvia had much adoe to abstaine from smiling, to thinke
how vndit she was to yeeld such a reward as Floreus expected :
but committing further consideration thereof, to time more
convenient, gave him this answer :

My mind, Sir, is unapt to entertaine Love, considering
how farre I am from my Countrey, and how soone I may
be overtaken ; therefore, I pray you, like not that at my
hands, which I will not grant : but if with your favour I

may live so quietly as since my comming I have done, I shall
thinke my selfe moze beholding to you for that, than for your
proffered love, which I cannot yeld unto. Floretus thinking
her soft answer was a signe she would soone yeld, still prose-
cuted his suit with earnestnesse; insomuch, that Sylvia told
him that as yet she could not fancy him, because she had not
trall of him, but that she wold consider further thererof. And
so for that time they parted.

Floretus in hope to attaine that which was not to be had,
and Sylvia in hope by this means the sooner to attain Artesias
love. First, considering Floretus had the disposing of her, and
therefore he must please him, least otherwise he might be de-
prived of her company: Then he began to think of Arbasius
murther, knowing assuredly, that it was not acted by his Fa-
thers counsel, but rather by some secret foe, that might as well
be Floretus as any other, for that he was the next heir, if Ar-
tesia hindred him not: Which conceit took such an effectuall in-
stancs in his fancy, that comparing Floretus behaviour, coun-
tenance, and little enquiry for the murtherer, he plainly
suspected him; which by the Divins Providence, rather than
by any evident profe, was stirred in his opinion. Such mur-
ther is never warealed, and though never so closely done,
yet God by some extraordinary means or other, revealeth the
same.

So came it to passe with Ornatus, although he was no way
party to any such act, or had any probability thererof, yet he
thought that Floretus countenance bewrayed his treachery, and
therefore he longed to have some conference with him, to see
if he could gather the truth, whereby he thought both to dis-
charge himself of that suspicion Artesia had of him, and also
when shee saw his innocency and constancy, shee might yeld
to love him: purposing to leavs no means unattempted to
try him, which he did the next time he spake with him, in this
sort.

Early the next Morning, Floretus not unmindfull of his
love, which kept him from his sleep that night, never lefft till
he had found Sylvia, and conuincing her with manifold sub-

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mislike speeches, sollicited his fate: whom Silvia cunningly handled, still putting him in hope, and yet making him no promise which set him the more on fire being so farre overgone with affection that he purposely determined either to win her love, or to hazard his own life, & to leave no means unattempted were it never so dangerous to procure his own content: The more unwilling he saw Silvia the more importunate he grew, till at last Silvia said as fo'loweth: Floretus, I know no reason you have to be so importunate, when I see in you no token of fidelity: but once having attained your purpose, you will esteem me as lightly as easly won: Besides, I see not how ou can perform any such matter as you promise, for I being of a strange countrie have nothing, and you for ought I see, as little: then by matching with you I shall bring my self to povertie, and miserie, and byen your love now so hot will be as cold, and I as rejected shall be left off to utter misery. Floretus not suffering her so proced anie further, made this answer: Silvia, do you not see Arbastus wealth, will not that be sufficient, the great possessions I now enioie by him, are sufficient to maintain you in all quiet, and yield you your hearts content. Arbastus wealth (said Silvia) that is Arctelia's by right, then how can you possesse the same, the living? Do but grant me love, said he, and I will quickly satisfie you in that I have a means to get all into mine own hands: and therefore I beseech you let no such mean trouble your mind: but be assured that in enjoying me, you shall have all happinelle and quiet, by my humble, dutifull, and constant loyalty. Do but assure me of this (quoth Silvia) and you shall know my resolution afterwarde.

Arctelia entring the chamber brake off their speeches, whose presence vexed Floretus at the heart, being scarce able to speak, by reason of his inward rancor: for indeed he hated Arctelia, because she only kept him from possessing his brothe rs living the wantwherof kept him from attaining Silvia's love: therefore he resolved by some means to work her downfall; which within shor tyme he acquainted Silvia withall by this occassion.

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One day finding her alone in a secret place in the garden, after many speeches past betwixt them, whereby he perceived, the chiefest thing that hindred him was his want of wealth, and after that Silvia had in some sort made him a grant (only to try him) he began to utter his full intent in this sort: My dear Silvia, I am so well perswaded of your virtue and put such confidence in your trutinesse, that I will reveale to you the very depth and secrets of my heart, Should you but swear to keep my counsell: soz to purchase your content I have determined to put in practise a matter of secrecy, which concer- neth my life and therfore not to be revealed.

Silvia hearing that, thought it better to sware a thousand oathes, and break them all than by nicenesse to endanger the life of Artesia, which she supposed he aimed at, & promised him by many protestations, to keep secret whatsoever he told her: whereupon Floretus urged with hope to win her love, and im- boldned in mischief, cares not what he did to attain his will, said as followeth: Silvia, you see Arbastus is dead, which was one stop that kept me from enjoying great possessions, and my purpose is, so you will but vouchsafe to aid me therein, to be so rid of Artesia: & then all that belongeth unto her by her fathers death, shall be yours to dispose of. Silvia's heart throbbed to hear his speeches & intending to set him to the ful said as followeth: Floretus I am sure you speak this onely to try me and so to trap me, and not of any intent you have to perform the same wherein you shall do me great wrong, and your self no good: soz I cannot beleive you bear the least thought to do it. By heaven it is my full intent, and soz that you may be assu- red thereof, it was I that slew Arbastus, howsover the matter is imputed to Allinus, and purpose likewise to be rid of Artesia only soz your sake.

Therefore make no doubt of my resolution: soz I am ab- solutely purposed to do it. O (thought Silvia) rather than thou see my blood than spill one drop of hers. Why Floretus would you have me do any thing therein? You onely may do it (quoth he) with more safety than any other, and the manner how is this.

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Within a mile from this Castle, Arbatus hath a banqueting house in his Park where oftentimes he would soz his recreation lie, whither will I perswade Artesia to go soz a season, to take the air, and to recreate her sences dulled with gries; and none but you to keep her company, and some two seruants whose trustinesse I am assured of. This done, I will get a drinke to be made, the force whereof, shall expell life, and yet by no means noz any cunning or skill be found out, which when you shall think convenient, give unto her: and being once dead, who shall make any enquiry, but that she died of a natural sicknesse: and so this matter may, without the least suspicion be effected: and then you shall be mistresse both of her heritage and my self. Silvia said, when shall this be put in practise? Within these two daies at the farthest said he: in the mean time frequent you Artesias company, in such familiar sort as heretofore you have done, and my self wil use her with no lesse kindnesse. Many other speeches being past betwixt them at that time, they parted.

CHAP. VII.

How Ornatus told Artesia of Floretus intent and upon what occasion he discovered himself.



Loreus being by himself, began to consider how rashly he had committed his secrets to Silvia, and entred into these meditations: Doth Silvia think that my policy exceedeth not her shallow capacity? proue simple stranger, she hath undertaken a matter of importance soz me, that I mean nothing lesse than good will to her: she, for my love, hath promised to poison Artesia, and is likely, for that once done, to taste the same saunce: for loved she me never so well I will not trust her with my life: but peradventure she hateth me, and will reveale my secret to Artesia. No Floretus, thou art deceived, she is so farre in love

love, that she both, and would I am sure, do any thing at my request. What a world is this? What Villany can be intended, which some either for favor or reward will not execute? If I should trust her that is so easily won to do such a hainous deed, might I not be accounted mad? Yes, and therefore I will not trust her: but Artesia being once dispatcht she shall follow next.

Ornat's on the contrary part was glad that he had felt the depth of Floretus counsel, thinking likewise that hee was so far in love with him (taking him for a Woman) that for his sake he sought Artesia's death, which was the onely means to help him attain her loves: which he likewise determined to give her knowledge of, and to discover himself, hoping that when she saw his innocency, his faithfull love, and how by his means her life was preserved, she would yeeld him due guerdon for his good will. Whileshee was in the depth of those cogitations, he espied Artesia enter the Gardeau; and taking his Lute, found her seated upon a flowry Bank, under the shade of a Wyrtle tree, and perceiving that shee was somewhat heavily inclined, hee satte downe by her, and with his sweet melody brought her asleep: when she had slept a good while, being exceedingly affrighted with a dreame she started up, looking earnestly upon Silvia, saying; I pray thee Silvia do not poison me. Silvia seeing her so affrighted, was exceedingly amazed and she her self, not yet fully recovered, seemed to be afraid of him: till at last Silvia said; I beseech you, what is it that affrighteth you? O Silvia (said she) I dreame thou wouldest have murdered me. Heavens forbid (quoth he) that I should attempt so hainous a deed: But would you vouchsafe to heare my tragicke report, you shall be rid of that doubt, for Silvia is much tempted to doe such a deed, but she esteemes your life moare dearest than her own, and would rather with her owne hands teare out her wofull heart, than think the least thought to wrong you. But because I have so fit occasion, and I hope your patience will permit me, I will rehearse a most monstrous and hainous intended mischief. The otherday I remember you were

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exceedingly offended with me, for naming Ornatus, for that you supposed him to be an actor in Arbatus death : but both he and Allinus are innocent, and farre from any such thought, for your Uncle Floretus was his murtherer, which he told me himselfe. He hath bene oftentimes impotunate to win my love (which another possesseleth) but I suspecting as much as I now finde to be true, held him off with this delay, That he had not wealth to maintaine me : Which when I had often alledged, he told me, all that belonged to Arbatus, was his. When I demanded how that could be, since you were living ? Quoth he, swere but to be secret, and I will tell you how : With that upon my protestations, he told me that he had murthered Arbatus, and meant to poison you ; persuading me to consent thereto, for that he said I only could doe it. With that, I (not purposing to doe it, but to preserve you) promised him my uttermost assistance ; which he told me should be done in this manner : I will (quoth he) perswade Artesia to forsoake the Castle, and to sojourne some few dayes in a House Arbatus hath in a Parke, where none but you and two other servants, whose secrets I nothing doubt shall keape her company, where I will give you such a Potion, as shall end her life, and yet by no meanes be perceived : neither can there be any doubt thereof, for that I, and none else, am left of her kindred to search the truth. This is the summe of that he told me.

Artesia hearing her words, late like one without fence a good space, being so farre overcme with grief and feare, that she could not speake a word, but at the last she burst forth into these lamentations : Aye me, unkind and most unnatural Uncle, canst thou speake me so faire, and intend me so much harme ? Who would have thought so soule impiety had bene shrowded under so faire pretext ? Couldst thou be so unnatural, as to murther thy owne most naturall, loving, and deare Brother, and not contented with this Tragedie, to scke my untimely death ? What frenys or selly doth possesse thy breth, that I esteemed replete with virtue ? How canst thou suffer so impious and hayuous a thought to hale into thy herte, much less

lesse to act such a notorious Outrage against him that lobed
thee as his life, and her that honoureth thee as her friend? O
Sylvia, may I credit thy words, and not rather accuse thee,
and excuse him? May I thinke him so simple, to trust thee
with his secrets? No: I feare me this is some pollicy invented
by thee to some bad end. Yet I pray thee pardon me: for what
canst thou get by telling me so, unlesse it were so? or not ca-
ther have kept his counsell, and then thou mightest have bene
my Heyze. And pardon I aske of thee, good Ornatus, though
thou art absent for that I accused thee as accessarie to my fa-
thers death, when thou wert innocent. With that, a flood of
teares stopt the passage of her speech: and Sylvia said: Artesia
yet vouchsafe to heare my counsell, which shall prevent all these
eminent evils. You may peradventure make some doubt of
the truth of that which I have spoken: but I take Heaven to
record, no word is false: for I regard your god above all things.
and your quiet above my owne content: for shoud you dye,
I could not live, for by that I draw my breath. I dived into
Floreas counsells, not to aide him, but to prevent them; for
that I knew Ornatus was no way guilty of any such treason,
but would have ventured his owne life to have preserved your
Fathers, whom he both loves & honoured as himselfe, of whom
I could haue told you more but that fearing to offend you, and
partly seeing how vehemently you accused him, I durst not:
His love is loyall, and thereon I will palme my life. Sylvia
(quoth Artesia) thou tellest me things of wonder: but especi-
ally that thou art so privie to Ornatus thoughts, and that thou
darest so boldly affirme he loveth me, when thou mayst be de-
ceived. Most virtuoues Artesia (quoth he) were you but so pri-
vie to the thoughts of his heart as I am, you would say as much
as I, & beleevē all that I tel you: and to put you in assurance of
what I know. I give you knowledge that I am Ornatus, & in
this disguise haue sought to attaine your love: for which bold-
ness, I most humbly desire you to pardon me. With that a
ruddie blush spred it selfe in Artesias cheeke, before pale with
feare, being so ashamed he had bin so pridy to many of her
actions, that she could not tell with what countenance to beholde
him.

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Then Ornatus said, I beseech you pity my torment, which hath urged me to this boldness, being frustrated of other means to enjoy your presence: my meaning being no other than vertuous, but resting at your mercifull disposition: I desire you to put assured confidence in me soz preventing Floretus intent, which you need not doubt of, soz to my grief I know it to be so true.

Artesia marvelled exceedingly at the strangenesse of these newes; but most of all, admired Ornatus love, which she could not tel how to resee, soz she both wel knew he deserved love, and the necessity of the time was such, that her safety rested in his secrerie: yet being not willing at that instant to yield, without further assault, said, I know not by what name to cal you, neither do I know whether you are Sylvia or Ornatus: but of either of both, your words beat great shew of true friend-ship which I fear me is not grounded in your heart, neither do I greatly care: soz since my Uncle seeketh my life, let him take it, soz I am weary thereof.

Let not your gentle heart (quoth Ornatus) make any doubt that I am Ornatus, though my counterfeit disguise doth shew me other: but either vouchsafe me love, or give me leave to die soz Artesia soz that potion that shoulde dispatch you, shal end my life. For my life is bound to your command, and al my felicity resteth in your favour: which unlesse you graunt, my life without the same will be but shrot, and the tyme I have to live, an endlesse labyrinth of sorrow.

Adellena by occasion entred the Garden, and found Artesia weeping, and Sylvia in a heaby dump; tormenting him-selfe to see her sorrow. But Artesia e'pyng her said, Adellena, doest thou love Ornatus so much, as that thou wouldest hazard Life and Credit to doe him gred, thou sayst thou knowest him to be a most virtuous and honest Gentleman? I, but wouldest thou (quoth she) keepe my counsaile, if I reveale a secret of importance to you concerning Ornatus? upon Adellenaes promise, she sayd: Dost thou know Ornatus, if you see him? Behold thers he is, Adellena was at the first halfe astonish'd at her speches; but at last she perfedly remembred that it was

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he indeed rejoicing most exceedingly to see him there, especially with Artesia. Then they declared unto her all that had happened, and of Floretus intent, desiring her to be secret, and make no shew of discontent, least he should suspect Silvia had betrayed his secrets: and after some other speeches past, they went into the house together.

CHAP. VIII.

How Artesia departed to the Lodge with Silvia, and from thence secretly departed to Adellenes house; and how Ornatus taken to be Silvia, was by Floretus accusation, and Artesias want, banished.



It fell out so the next day, that the King with divers of his company, amongst whom was his only Sonne and Heire Lenon, being wearied with travell, arrived at Arbatus house, thinking to have found him there, but the King hearing of his sudden death, was exceedingly sorry, persuading himself as all men else did, that hee was slaine by some of Allinus house, which made him make small aboad there, but departed to his Pallace. Now it fortuned that Lenon beheld Artesias beauty, and was with the first view thereof exceedingly transported: insomuch that after hee was gone, hee could by no means forget her; but determined ere long, to return to see if he could attain her love.

Now the time was come that Floretus had appointed to set aboach his Willany, and (according as Ornatus had before told Artesia) he came to her, persuading her for a season to lie in the Country: which she as fore-armed consented unto: and so the next morning, she with Silvia, Floretus and divers others, departed: at night Floretus returning, did leave with her according as hee had promised Silvia, onely two Servants that were to provide them necessaries, but knew no part of the conspiracy. When Ornatus and Artesia were

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alone, she before being undoubtedly assured of his loves fidelity, did use these comfortable speeches to him: Ornatus, whereas alwayes before this time, too unkindly I have reputed you as a foe, I now crave pardon, being sorry that my heart hath done you so much wrong, which now I will requite with kindnesse. I confess it was strange to me to entertaine love; but now I willingly yield my selfe to be subject to it, and your true and faithfull friend; committing my selfe to your custody and my love & selfe to be yours to dispose of. Ornatus hearing her speeches, was ravished with a Heaven of joy: and with a gentle and kind behaviour folding her in his arm, and imprinting a sweete kiss upon her Rosie lips, he said: Never was poor wretch exalted to more Happinesse than I am by being enriched with this inestimable treasure of your love. O how rich reward have I now reapt for my cares! and what glory, joy, or wealth, can be compared to the riches of your love? O heavenly Arcelia how fortunate have you made Ornatus! How have you blessed Ornatus? How full of joy is Ornatus by your full consent: Was ever any so unworthy, so exalted? for this kindnesse and love I will performe more than my tongue can utter, and bee more faithfull than your heart can wish. Then began they to imbrace each other, and to surfeite themselves in the solaces that true love yeldeth: He sometimes lending her a kiss, and she with interest paying two for one; for one sweete look two and so many imbracings as are not to be explicated: their hearts and hands joined in such firm bands of true affection, as are not to be dissolved: & they surfeited with such exceeding content, as is impossible to be described. These storms of loves somewhat mitigated, they began to consult of their dangerous estate, and to devise how to prevent the intended mischief. In this place they continued some two dayes in exceeding content, stil expecting to hear from Floreus: who the third day fearing to truck any with a matter of such weight, came himself to bring the potion (yet in shew of kindnesse to visite Arcelia) delivering the same to Silvia, willing her the next night to give it her which he promised him faithfully to accomplish.

Wher

Ornatus and Artesia.

When he was gone, Artesia came to Ornatus, to know what newes Floretus brought: who told her all, and shewed her the Poyson in a Glasse, whiche he had charged shoulde be given her the next day. Whiche that Artesia began to walpe, and exclaime against her Uncle in most extreme sort. But Ornatus intreated her to cease such vaine griefe, whiche could not hurt him but her selfe: promising her to prevent the same, if she would follow his counsell, which she willingly yielded unto.

Then quoth he, let us presently depart from hence to Adellenaes house, whiche is not farre off, who you know, is agried with us already: where I will leave you and returne. Whiche says, while the servants were absent upon some speciall occasion, they departed, with little labour arriving at Adellenaes house, who was ready to receive them: and after many farewells, Ornatus returned back to the Lodge. And when it was supper time, the servants brought up meat, but Ornatus told them, Artesia was scarce well, and therefore they would not suppe that night. And being alone by himselfe he studed what excuse to make for Artesias absence, when Floretus should come: spending that night in much care, and many unquiet cogitations, which tooke away his sleep.

Floretus was no sooner returned from the Lodge, but he met Lenon, who of purpose came to meet Artesia, whom Floretus kindly saluted, marveling much wherefore he came: to ease which doubt Lenon sayd.

My friend Floretus, I come to visit the faire Artesia, to whose beauty I am enthralled, not as regarding her wealth, but her sweete love, of whom you only have the government: therefore I pray bestriend me so much, that I may come to speech of her. Floretus was so exceedingly amazed to heare his speeches, that he could not tell what answer to make ney how to excuse her absence. Lenon seeing him in such a stir, continued his speeches, saying: Floretus be not unwilling I should match with Artesia, for that shall no way hinder your preferment, who think peradventure the longer she liveth

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unmarryed, the more wealth thou shall get by her: but to rid you of that doubt, be but a meanes to win her consent, & I know by Heaven, I will not take one peny-worth of a baltis substance from you, but freely give it you all: For it is not her possessions I regard, but her love, therefore I pray resolve me of your mind herein.

My Lord replied he, your offer is so bountifull, besides my duty urging me, I am ready to perforne your will to the uttermost of my power. I thanke you good Floretus, quoth Lenon: then I pray the bring me to her, for my love is impatient of delay. My Lord, replied he; that I cannot do instantly, for Artesia some two dayes past with the strange Damosell Silvia, departed hence, and they are both now at the Lodge: whether (if you please to take such entertainment as this place yeldeth, we will go to morrow morning. Agreed qd. Lenon. I will accept your proffer. When the time of rest was come, Floretus being alone by himselfe, entred into these cogitations: What inconveniences hast thou runne into Floretus: thou hast hired one to murther Artesia, in hope to get her wealth, and made Sylvia acquainted with thy counsell, which wealth thou mayst now attaine by preseruing her life: and besides, winning her to love Lenon, thou shalt find him thy faithfull friend for ever.

What wert thou then best to doe: If thou shouldest murther her, he wculd make enquiry of her death, & so thou wilst be undone: If not, then will Silvia be displeased, and so bewray the drift: the mischiese which by thy folly thou hast runne into are so intricate, that thou knowest not which way to shun them.

Were it not better to save her life, and win her love for Lenor, then to poyson her, & so die my selfe: If I save her life, Sylvia will be discontented: what of that? Then let Sylvia smart for it: for if she will not be contented with that I shall doe, she shall never live to bewray my counsell. And therefore will I first try her, and finding any suspicion thereof, I will stabbe her my selfe, whose death I may easier answer then Artesias.

Early the next morning, Lenon and he rode to the Lodge : where no sooner arrived, but he met with Sylvia, to whom he sayd, why how now Sylvia, I have newes of importance to impart unto thee ; Lenon whom thou here beholdest, is sonne to the King, and is deeplie in love with Artesia, and hath given me assurance of Arbastus living, if I can win Artesia to match with him : Now I thinke it god to deferre our purpose as concerning her death, untill we have made triall whether she will love him, or no ; which If we can effect, we shall be quit of so cruell a deed, enjoy her Heritage, and have an assured friend of Lenon,whilst we live : therefore let me know your opinion herein.

Sylvia was exceedingly amazed to heare his speeches : thinking that if he should tell him where Artesia was, she would be wrested from the possession of him, and so himselfe be disappointed of her love ; and on the other side he thought what mischiefe would arise if he should say he had already given her the Poyson. Yet his love over-mastering the feare of any danger made him say : All this I like ; but Floretus , it is now too late : for I have caused Artesia to drinke the Poyson you delivered me, and she is dead ; which was of such force, that all her body purpled into Wiskers & Sivelings : which because I knew would betray what we had done, I stroke her Body, and conveyed it into a deepe Pit, where it is impossible to be found.

Floretus now fearing to have his treason bewrayed, thought to stabbe Sylvia, and was so transported that in a Monstrous rage he drew his Dagger, and unawares strucke Sylvia in the left Arme : who feeling the smart, with violence more than Floretus expected, stopt to him, and in spight of his uttermost strength, wringe the Dagger out of his hands, and with the same wounded him in three places ; and had not Lenon stopt betwixt them, Floretus had beeone slaine.

Lenon having parted them, demanded what the matter was. Floretus thinking rather to accuse, then bes accused himself, and terrifid with affright, said : That wikked w^t man

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man hath murthered Arctia. Sylvia made no answer, untill Lenon layd hold on her: demanding, wheres Arctia was; she answereing. By the enticement of that wicked Floretus, I gave her a Drinke, that unknown to me, hath poysoned her.

Oh wicked Creature, sayd Lenon, thou art condemned thy selfe, and therefore worthily shall thy accursed Life make satisfaction for her Death. With that, he began to draw his Sword: but Ornatvs thinking it now no time to dally, least he might by them be murthered, caught hold on Lenons Sword, having such advantage, that he easly wryng it from him, and sayd: Worthy Lenon be advised, doe not thou seeke to spill my innocent bloud, without further consideration, least for the same thou loose thine owne. Thinkest thou I am as faulke and guilty as Floretus is? We assured I am not. But if thou lovest Justice, lay hands on that Traytor; for he, not I, is culpable of sheding her innocent bloud.

By this time Lenons Servantes perceiving their contenti-
on, came running in with their Swords drawn and by their
Lords commandement, first apprehended Floretus, and after-
wards sought by violence to take Silvia: but he standing in
his owne defence, resisted them, alleging innocency, till Le-
non swore and protested, If he were not accessarie thereto,
he should have no other than Justice. That his cause should
be heard before the King.

Ornatvs thought it better to use mire meanes, rather
than by compulsion; and esteeming it lesse gryfe to be made
a Prisoner, than to betray wheres Arctia was, and so have
her taken from him, yielded: both of them being conveyed to
the Wallace, and so that night committed to severall Pri-
sons.

Floretus being thus in durance, his Conscience so deeply
accused him of Villany, that he continued causing and exlay-
ning against his hard fortune, and with bitter bannings ra-
gioning against himselfe, for drusing Sylvia, with extreame feare
of death he seemed to be altogether desperate.

Ornatvs

Ornatus and Artesia.

Ornatus on the other side tooke that trouble patiently, as endured for Artesias sake; fearing nothing, for that he knew himself innocent, and could easilie acquit himself of such accusation purposing rather to hazard the worse than betray who he was; which to conceal was his greatest care.

The next day they were brought before the Prince: where Floretus upon Sylviaes accusation, confessed the truth, both concerning Artesia, and how he flew Arbasus; for which he was adjudged to dy within two dayes. And (quoth he) to Sylviae, that thou art a stranger, and by his counsell, rather than of thine own inclination, wert dravon unwittingly to do that deed, I wil pardon thy life, but adjudge thee to be banished this country. And (quoth he) because I fear that some will seek thy life thou shalt presently be conviued hence: which doom shall stand irrevocable.

Then gave he commandement she should be couerred to the Haben presently: committing her to the custody of certaine rude Mours: who not stayng to hear what answer she would make (whereof por Ornatus was not readilie provided in that extremity) immediately carried her away. To whom Ornatus would have told the truth of all: but he spake to them that understood him not. Who with sped executing the sovereign command, rudely haled her aboard, and hoising sail never re-sted, until they arrived near the Coast of Patelia, where they were commanded to leave her.

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CHAP. IX.

Of the sorrow *Artesia* tooke for *Ornatus* Banishment: and of the severall Adventures befall him in *Naselia*.



Reclia remaining in Adellenas House, marvelled she heard not from Ornatus, according to his promise, which wase her into some doubt of his safety: that comuning to Adellena, she desired her to haste to the Lodge, to intreat him to come to her, for by her hearts mis-
doubt, she suspected some heavie newes. Adellena immedi-
ately hasted thither, finding the Servantes in great sorrow; when she asked of them for Sylvia. Aye me, quoth one of them, by this time she is past speaking withall: for such heavie
newes is befallen since your departure, as grieveth me to vt-
ter: Yet notwithstanding, told her all that was hap-
pened.

Adellena brouking no delay which in those affaires was dan-
gerous, stood not to reiterate those grieses, and how contrari-
ly every thing fell out; but with all haste returned to Artesia:
who espyng her comming, thought her Countenance bewray-
ed some unwelcome Accident, hastily enquiring how Ornatus
did: Adellena for want of breath could not speake a good space, but at the last she sayd: Artesia, tedious lament is not now to
be used, but speedy counsell how to save Ornatus: for he is car-
ried before the King, and is accused by Floretus, to have mur-
thered you: For coming to the Lodge with Lenon the Kings
sonne, who pretendeth great love to you, and not finding you,
Ornatus told Floretus he had given you the Poyson: Where-
upon Floretus would have slaine him: but Ornatus taking his
Dagger from him, had done the like to him, had not Lenon
stept betwixt them. Then Floretus accused him for your death,
and he Floretus: and both were yesterday carried before the
King.

Alas,

Alas, poor Ornatus, said Artesia, what misery is befallen thee for my sake? how art thou rewarded for preserving my life? Good Adellena, counsell me what is to be done: Ornatus being among them a reputed stranger, having no friend to plead for him, and peradventure over-swayed by Floretus perjury, may have his life endangered, and the rather, because he is taken to be a Natolian. Therefore Adellena, if thou lovest him or me, save both his and my life, and discharge him of that false accusation, ruine to the Court, and there find out Lenon, tell him of my safety and request him for my sake to pity poor Silvia, Adellena according to her commandement mounted a hor'e, and with great speed by that time it was night arrived at the Court, and finding out Lenon, uttered these speeches: Most worthy Lenon vouchsafes to hear me speak, the fair Artesia, whom you supposed dead, is alive, and in safety at my house who hath sent me to you, in the behalf of Silvia, fearing some wrong might be done unto her, as suspected to be guilty of her death. When he only hath preserved her life.

Lenon was so amazed at her speeches that he could not tell what to say, being exceedingly grieved for Silvia, but at length told her what his father had done; which appalled her sences with deadly fear. Lenon, notwithstanding it something grieved him for Silvia, yet his heart was glad to heare of Artesias safety, and therefore he determined to go with Adellena to visite her; which likewise he performed, and ent'ing where she was, making exceeding lamentation, he said.

I beseech you grieve not fair Damosell, for Silvia, for no harm is done unto her, only my father upon her own confession and Floretus accusation, hath banished her to her own country.

Artesia hearing his speeches, with very grief fell into a deadly trance, both Lenon and Adellena having much adoe to bring her life again. And being conveyed to her bed when she recovered and came to her self, and Lenon standing by her whose sight was most grievous to her, she turned her

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CHAP. IX.

Of the sorrow *Artesia* tooke for *Ornatus* Banishment: and of the severall Adventures befall him in *Naples*.



Artesia remaining in Adellenaes House, marbelled she heard not from Ornatus, according to his promise, which drave her into some doubt of his safety: that comung to Adellena, she desired her to haste to the Lodge, to intreat him to come to her, for by her hearts misdoubt, she suspected some heavie newes. Adellena immedately hasted thither, finding the Servants in great sorrow; when she asked of them for Sylvia. Axe me, quoth one of them, by this time she is past speaking withall: for such heavie newes is befallen since your departure, as grieveþ me to weter: Yet notwithstanding, told her all that was hapened.

Adellena brooking no delay which in those affaires was dangerous, stod not to reiterate those grieses, and how contrariely every thing fell out; but with all haste returned to Artesia: whoes espying her comung, thought her Countenance bewrayed some unwelcomme Accident, hastily enquiring how Ornatus did: Adellena for want of breath could not speak a good space, but at the last she sayd: Artesia, tedious lament is not now to be used, but speedy counsell how to save Ornatus; for he is carried before the King, and is accused by Floretus, to have murthered you: For coming to the Lodge with Lenon the Kings sonne, who pretendeth great love to you, and not finding you, Ornatus told Floretus he had given you the Poysen: Whereupon Floretus would have slaine him: but Ornatus taking his Dagger from him, had done the like to him, had not Lenon stopt betwixt them. Then Floretus accused him for your death, and he Floretus: and both were yesterday carried before the King.

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Artesia hearing his speeches, with very grief fell into a deadly trance, both Lenon and Adellena having much ado to bring her life again. And being conveyed to her bed when she recovered and came to her self, and Lenon standing by her whose sight was most grievous to her, she turned her

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head from his sight shedding such abundance of tears, that she bedewed the place where she lay. Lenon perceiving that she was displeased with his presence, withdrew himself, giving Adellena this charge. Adellena since Arcelia is in thy custody, I charge thee let her not depart hence, until thou hearest of me again, for if thou doest thou shalt answer the same, but if thou wilt stand my friend and in my behalf intreat her favour, I will prove so gratafull a friend as thou shall account thy labour well employed.

He was no sooner gone but Arcelia uttered these lamentations; Most accursed wretch that I am, to be thus separated from my dear love, whose courteous mind is the fountain of all vertue: how unfortunate am I by my fathers death, and my uncles cruelty, but especially by his losse, that is unjustly banished into a strange Country, where he poor true and loyall Gentleman, never set foot: how unhappy was he made, when he first began his love: but now most miserable, by seeking to preserve my life, hath cast away his own, and to be disappointed of my love, hath quite dislevered himself from my sight, to hazard his person by Sea and Land.

Is it possible that he should ever return being so far conveyed from his native soil and left to the mercies of strange people: that will be ready to destroy his guiltlesse life. No I fear me never shall I be so happy as behold him, and though I do not yet shal my love to him remain immovable. Thereforo now will I arm my self to endure all perils, to live in rare and continuall grief for want of my beloved Ornatius, whose heart I know overflows with sorrow, and peradventure misdoubteth my loyalty, having been so unkind unto him before: and knowing Lenons affection, may suppose his dignity might alter my constancy. But sooner shall Ornatius hear of my death, than that I will alter my love, or yeeld his right to another, were he the greatest Potentate in the world.

Which-said, another flood of brimful tears overflowed her eyes, and her passage of speech was stopt by heart-piercing sighings.

Ornatus and Artesia.

sighings, which in confused multitudes issued with her sweet breath, never ceasing her lament, but still bewraying her true Loves absence, that it pierced Adellenaes heart with such sorrow, that shee wept as well as Artesia, both being so much grieved, that they seemed to strive how to exceede one another in sorrow. In which sorrowfull estate Artesia remained so long, that shee waxed extreme sick: and grew to that extreameity, that Adellena feared her death.

Lenon likewise being come to the Court, got pardon of his Father for Floretus death, but notwithstanding he remained in prison all the dayes of his life. Lenon likewise hearing of Artesias sicknesse refrained from visiting her, only he would oftentimes repaire to Adellenaes house, to enquire how she did,

Ornatus being left in the country of Natolia, tooke his misfortunes in such heavy sort, that had not his hope to see Artesia againe withheld him, he had laid violent hands upon himself, for a season giving himself to sorrow and careless desparation, neither regarding which way to provide for his safety, nor otherwise respecting what danger hee might runne into, in that strange Country, for the Moors had landed him in a vast and desolate coast of the Country.

Thus carelessle did he continue a whole night and a day, not so much as seeking food to preserue him from famine: but in the end, hunger constrained him to seek succour, but when his stomack served him, he could find no meat, that with the extreameity thereof, calling to remembrance his estate, he thus bewailed his sad condition.

Thus Fortune contrary to nature deals with her subjects, sometimes hoysing them to the top of all felicity, and then with violence tumbling them down headlong into the depth of extream misery and despair.

Was ever man more fortunate & suddenly miserable than I ame Could ever any man whatsoeuer, attain more heavenly felicity and happiness than I did, by being possesse of Artesia,

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and now again more accurst, being thus far absent from her, and banished my native soyle, into a strange country, ready to be famished and devoured by wild beasts, or that which is worst, never likely to see Arcelia again. How could any man contain himself from desparatenesse, being so miserable as I am? How can I withhold my hunds from murthering my selfe, when by doing it, I shall be rid out of a wretched life?

What should I do? which way should I goe? Here I am in an unfrequented place, where no humane creatures inhabit, but wild beasts; without food, without weapons, in womans apparell, and without hope of comfort. Shall I stay here, then shall I be famished: shall I leave this place and travell further, then I go further from my beloved, and meeting with some ravenous beast, may be devoured. Now being hungry I want food, and here is none, unlesse I will eat the earth, leaves of trees, or roots of the grasse. Well I will seek my fortune, be it good or ill: and in this desparate mood he travelled on, and by good fortune found a tree laden with exceeding pleasant and godly fruit, with which he satisfied his hunger, not far from which place he took up his nights lodging.

Early the next morning he arose, first filling his belly, and then his lap with that pleasant fruit, the taste whereof was like pleasant wine that being drunk in abundance, will make the head light: which made Ornatus heart merry, that he travelled on a pace. But Fortune not contented with the misery he endured already, sent him another affliction: he entred into a place like a Forrest, beset with trees of huge proportion, scattered here and there, where he met with a wild and fierce Boare that haunted those Deserts: who espying Ornatus, with a terrible groyning, bristled himself, comming towards him. Ornatus being now driven to his uttermost shifts, began to runne with all his force from the beast: but he making the more speed, had almost overtaken him, when one of the Apples Ornatus carried about him, fell down, and the Boar espying the same, stayed his hast to take it up, whereby Ornatus had gotten some little ground of him, & seeing him so

much

much assed the fruit, cast downe another Apple, after which the Boare ran with greedinesse devouring the same. Ornatus was glad of this posse shifte, and still cast downe one Apple, & then another, that in the end he had almost thrown away all, & notwithstanding that feare to be destroyed: But the Boare feeling his belly full, & his hunger allayed, left off his eager pursuit, and followed him more carelessly; whom he still fed with Apples, so long as his store lasted: that in the end the Boare being drunke with the pleasant fruit, began to reel & stagger & lying downe fell fast asleep.

Whiche Ornatus seeing, having no other then a knife about him, with the same approached the Boare, and without feare, violently thrust the same so deepe into the Boares bristled side, that it pierced his heart, and hr, after some strugling, dyed.

Ornatus then held up his hands to Heaven for joy, excedingly applauding this his fortunate and unexpected escape; which he tooke as a fortunate preluge of good successe. But yet before he could determine what to do, Fortune once againe shewed her mutability: For when Ornatus had parted the Boares head from his huge body, and with the same was ready to depart, there past by, as it seemed a Knight gallantly mounted in greene Armour; who espying a Woman bearing the Boares head, drew towards her, and said: Woman, where hadst thou that Boares head? I pray thee deliver it me. Ornatus made this answer: Sir I need not do either unlesse I know more cause then as yet I do. The Knight hearing that short answer, alighted, and said: I will shew no other reason but that I will have it. With that he began to strike for the same: but Ornatus having moze mind to his sword, then to keepe the Boares head, suddenly caught hold thereof, and drew the same out; which when he had gotten he said: Disloyall and discourteous Knight, now will I keepe the Boares head in despight of thee. With that he thrust at him, and contrary to his thought wounded him so deepe, that he left him for dead; wishing, that he had not done that deed: but not knowing how discourteously he

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he would have used him, let passe all further remoule, and casting off his womanes apparell, put on the Knights apparell, and armour, mounted the Steed, and with the Boars head rode back the same way he saw the Knight come, and within a little space, found a beaten way that conduced him to a godly Town, whose Turret tops he saw long before he came to the same: then began he to study what to doe, sometimes thinking it best not to enter into the town, from whence it was likely the Knight he slew came, and so he being taken for him might be known, and so afterwards endangered for his death: For peradventure the Knight might be of god estimation and of purpose sent to slay the Boar, and if it shoule be knowna that he had slain him his friends would for the same, and the rather for that he was a stranger, prosecute sharp revenge against him.

Whilst he was in these meditations, he came near the towne, not fully resolved what to do, where he was soon espied of some of the people, who seeing the Boars head, came running towards him, making exceeding joy: which when he saw, he thought it too late to turn back, but that he must go on and hazard the worst: and being entred the towne, a number of the inhabitants flocked about him, some with garlands, some with prayses, and all with joy, uttering these speeches: Welcome home most hyspe Alprinus.

Ornatus then perfectly knew, that the Knights name was Alprinus, and went of purpose to slay the Boar, whom they took him to be, and that he must of necessity be known; which drave him into an exceeding care what excuse to make to avoid the danger of death.

Then presently he beheld a trop of beautifull Damzels, with the sounds of sweet Musick comming towards him, amongst whom, one as chief, and more beautifull than the rest, was crowned with a garland of flowers, bearing another in her hand, who all at once applauded his victory, dancing before him, untill he came to the middest of the towne, where late the chief Magistrates, where the Damzel that was crowned thus spake unto him.

Sir

Sir Alprinus, your conuict hath released the Inhabitants of care, extolled thy name, preserved thy life, and won me for thy Love. You have well performed the taske you undertooke, and according to your desert, I come to Crown you with these flowers, and to yeeld my self as yours for ever.

Ornatus hearing her speeches thought to try the end of this adventure, which could be no worse than death, which of force he must now hazard. alighted, laying down the Bozes head upon a Table that stood before the Ancients, with humble and comely behaviour kissing the Damoſels hand, who set the wreath of flowers upon his head, and taking him by the hand, brought him before the Ancients, one of whom stood up and said: Worthy Gentleman whereas before thou werst by us adjudged to die, as worthy thereof, for this thy valiant deed, we freely pardon thes, and acquit thee from all trespasses that thou hast committed against any whomsoever untill this present hour.

And taking the Damzell by the hand, said: Lucida, according to thy desire and his desert I yeeld thee to be his wife. And Gentleman (quoth he) take her as thine own, as freely as she was by birth adopted mine: and after my death be thou inheritor of my lands.

To all this Ornatus gave a free consent, and the night now approaching, hee with Lucida went to her Fathers house, where was a great Feast provided, from which Ornatus excused himself in this sort: When hee was entered the house being still Armed, onely lifting up his Beauver, he took Lucida by the hand, and withdrawing her aside, said.

Lucida, I now know your love to be infallible, and your constancy above all womens that I have known: and that Alprinus is so farre indebted unto you, as that he shal never (mighty he live a thousand years) be abel to recompence this inestimable favor of your love, which hath preserved my unworthy life from destruction.

But notwithstanding, your love Alprinus his debt is

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so great, as car no way be graſed: I request one further fa-
vour at your handz, whereon my chiefeſt felicity dependeth,
yea, my life, your Love, and perpetuall Good: which I
fear to utter least you shoule misconceive the ſame, there be-
ing no other thing to hinder the content Alprinus ſeeketh, but
onely your favourable conſent, to baniſh all miſtrouſt of my
faſh.

Lucida marbelled at his ſpeeches: indeed loving him ſo
well, tha: ſhe would have ſpilt her own bloude for his ſake ſay-
ing: Alprinus what need you make doubt of my conſent, to
any thing whatſoever it be, for your ſake? Know you not how
faſhful I have continued, though you ſlew my onely brother,
and that I eſteemed your love far dearer then his life: and
when you ſhould have died for that deed, obtained this at my
faſhers and the reſt of the Ancients hands. That ſlaying the
Boze that had ſlain many people, you ſhould ſave your owne
life, and win me as your love.

And notwithstanding all this, do you make a queſtion, whether I will geeld conſent to any thing that ſhall be for
your god? O Alprinus, if your love were ſo conſtant as mine,
if you intended to continu my love for ever, if your heart
felt ſo deep a ſting of love as mine, you would not make ſuch
a doubt of my loyalty, of my truth true love, and conſtancy:
For you know whatſoever you ſhould ask I wil grant; what-
ſoever you ſhould requeſt, I wil perforeme: and wherein ever
a Lover may ſhew infallible tokens of her truth, I wil
do as much as any.

But ſince you wil not beſteve me without an oath; I ſwear
by my love, my unſpoiled virginitie, and all the god I wil
my heart, I wil conſent, agree, perforeme, or do any thing: noz
be offendid with any thing, be the news never ſo unwelcomme,
ſo it be for Alprinus god noz leave any thing unperfymed you
ſhall require.

Ornatus hearing with what conſtancy her ſpeeches pro-
ceeded from her, and how grievously ſhe conceiued it, that any
doubt ſhould be made of her loyalty, thought moſt certainly
that he might put his life into her handz, and therefore having
alrea-

already studied a device. It ill agreeth with my nature to dissemble, and hardly can I have been drawn thereto, but that desire to preserve love drew me thereto: for know most worthy Lucida, that I am not Alprinus, but one that for his sake hath undertaken this: The truth whereof, if thou wilt hear with patience I will declare.

Yesterday, I travelled through the Forrest, or desert, where I met Alprinus, sore wounded and flying from the Boar, that pursued him with celerity, which when I beheld, to rescue him from death, I set upon the Boar, and by good fortune slew him: which when he beheld, he declared to me his the cause of his comming: which when I heard pittyng estate I bid him take the Boars head: and withal helped him to mount his Steed, but his wounds would not suffer him to ride, that I was in some fear of his life. When presently we beheld an ancient Hermite comming towards us, who lived in a Cave in these Woods, and undertooke to cure his wounds, being glad of the Boars death. To whose Cell I conveyed Alprinus: at whose request, I have performed this which you see, and have undertaken to hazard my life, to discharge him of death, and to win the assured possession of your love.

Now I most humbly intreat you, for his sake to conceal what I am, that I be not known, and so both disappoint your self of his love, and him of safety. Driely devise a meanes to excuse me from their feast: which I trust you will do for Alprinus sake, and then we may have time to study for your further content.

Lucidae love made her beleive that all he said was true, and therefore said: Sir, I trust there is no cause why I shoule mistrust you: and therefore relying upon the truth of that which you have said, I will tell my father you are wounded, and desire rather to go to your Chamber, than to the Feast, who I know will deny me nothing. This said, she went to her Father, and so prevailed with him, that he was contented she shoule have the tending of him: whom she tooke to a Chamber, suffering none to come at him, but her maid, whom

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she trusted and well might trust for her fidelity. Afterwards Lucida came to Ornatus, to determine how she might come to see Alprinus, being most carefull of his health; and amongst many other speeches, they concluded that Ornatus the next morning should depart the Forest, in Alprinus, and that shee by some meanes would come thither the next day after, if he would meet her, to give her directions where to finde him: which he promised to do. According to this agreement, Ornatus very early the next morning Armed himself, and as Lucida had instructed him, took his leave of her Father: who little suspecting he had been any other then Alprinus, gave his consent: and so Ornatus in Alprinus Armour again departed the Town, being glad he was escaped from death. which hee was sure to have indured, if it had been any wayes knowne that he had slain Alprinus.

And being now alone by himself having the wide world to travel in, but never a friend to go to, haid of fear, but not of care, he studied whither to direct his journey: sometime his conscience accusing him of too much disloyall dealing towards Lucida, in betraying her vertues; dissimulation, in telling her Alprinus was living, when hee knew the contrary.

Then he contrarily thought, it was lawfull for him to dissemble with her to save his own life, and though he had slain Alprinus, he did it but in defence of his honour.

Amongst all these this cogitation seemed most to acquit him of dishonor: that fortune and the destintes had by that means appained him to escape. Whiles he rode on in these deepe meditations he met with an ancient Hermite, who comming towards him said: Discourteous Gentleman how camest thou by that Armour: and yet I need not ask thee, for I know thou art the worthy Gentleman Alprinus. which I beheld to my grief: Father (quoth Ornatus) if thou didst behold the same, thou canst witnessse I did it against my will, and in my owne defence: for whose death I am as sorry as thy selfe, & would as willingly have done any thing to preserue the same as any man living.

Will

Will you then (said the Hermite) so this for him, vouchsafe to come and speakes with him, who is in reasonable good estate in my Cell ?

I would to God, said Ornatus, thy words were true : for if he be living, it will revive my heart with joy, that is almost vanquisht with care : desiring nothing more, then to see him. He is living, said the Hermite, and if you will go, I will bring you to him presently.

Ornatus being come to the Cell, accordingly found Alprinus very weake, by reason of his grievous wounds, to whom Ornatus declared all that happened between him and Lucida : which added no little comfort to Alprinus heart, that he thought himself of sufficient strength to go and meet with her, and therefore told Ornatus, he would go and meet with her; and withall, yelded him so many thanks, as if by his means his life had been preserued.

In the mean time they continued in the old Hermites Cave: Alprinus in great comfort, and Ornatus in no lesse care, for the absence of his dear Artesia, breathing forth many a deep sigh, and uttering many a sad and mournfull lamentation: sometimes utterly despairing of attaining her love, and then again, remembiring her vertues, growing into some better confidence of her constancy. Yet most of all, fearing that Lenons love to her, might either by perswasion of his death, force affect of dignity, or by other means win her to consent to him, especially for that shee had no Parents to governe her, nor hee never a faithfull friend to counseil her.

The next day Alprinus and he went out to meeet Lucida, whom they met at the entrance into the Forrest, and after many kind salutations past betwixt the two Lovers, they altogether went back into the Town, to Lucidaes fathers house, who that morning was departed to a Haven, about busynesse of importance.

Ornatus was most kindly used of them, remaining there untill Alprinus had seuered Lucida: but then he thought it high time for him to depart: And on a time finding Al-

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prinus alone, who had shewen sufficient tokens of his friend-
ship, he declared unto him the whole truth of his forepassed
love to Artesia, requesting his help for his passage into Phry-
gia.

Alprinus with great regard attended the whole discourse
promising his uttermost assistance; which quoth he) none can
effect so well as Lucida, whose father is a Merchant, and sen-
deth forth ships into sundry Provinces, who onely may plea-
sure you: which charge I will undertake, and cause her to
deal so effectually with him, that you shall attain your desire.
Ornatus continued in good hope somewhat abandoning his for-
mer despair, whom for a time we will leave, attending the
time that some of the ships should depart, to speak of Artesia his
carefull lover.

C H A P. X.

How Lenon caused Artesia by violence to be carried from Adel-
lenae house to the green Fortress, of the miseries she endured
there. How she was rescued from thence by Allinus, and from
him taken by Pyrates: and how Allinus, accused by Lenon for
her death, was imprisoned.

Now after that Artesia by Adellenae carefull
tendance had somewhat recovered health,
Lenon began to visite her again, being un-
able to endure the heavy burthen of burning
love, thinking her sicknesse proceeded from
fear of Floretus, not for want of Ornatus com-
pany, and finding an occasion saluted her in this sorte: Haste fairest
Artesia, my heart is so firmly enthralled to your beauty, &
my affections so admire your vertues, that I am constrained
to utter my mind, and to tell you, I so love your beauty, ver-
ties, and other most rare perfections, wherewith you are ad-
orned

dorned, that I humbly sue to you for favour, and prostrate my self your vassall at your feet, desiring to be enriched with these Jewels of inestimable price: which having once attained, I shall think I have more wealth in my possession, then al the world besides my self doth contain. Your unkind uncles cruelty you need not fear, nor other misfortune; neither have you any Parents to over-rule you in making your choise: then vouchsafe to accept my suit, and yeld consent to my love.

My Lord (replied Artesia) I thanke you for your good will, but I know not how to accept your love, being yet so farre from knowing what it is, that if I should but dream thereof, my heart would be out of quiet: besides, many cares, continually attend the same, and my mean estate so farre unworthie thereof, with innumerable other discontents and cares, that I should make my self subject unto, that I had rather a thousand times remain in the estate I am now in. Therefore, I intreat you to settle your love elsewhere, more agreeable to your estate and fancy: for I shall think my self most fortunate, if I never fall into that labyrinth of disquietes; but will, during my life, labour to keepe my selfe free from loves bands. Lenon would not take this for an answer: but with many other speeches, continued his suit, whom Artesia stil put out of hope: that he departed for that time exceedingly discontented, leaving her no lesse disquieted in thoughts, how to avoid his love.

In this sort did he daily visite her, still growing more unfortunate: amongst manie other this conference passe betwixt them: Artesia (quoth he) how long shall I sue and be frustrated in my hopes, by your unkindnesse? Is your heart hardened against me: or am I of so base conditions, that you can not conceive well of me? Do is it possible you bear so hatefull a conceit of love as you make shew for? then may I accuse mine eies that have betrayed my sences, in making them your thall then may I think my woe begun, when I first began to love. O Artesia, be not so cruel, as to punish me with this disbairn.

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Alpinus alone, who has shewn sufficient tokens of his friendship, he declared unto him the whole truth of his forepassed love to Artesia, requesting his help for his passage into Phrygia.

Alpinus with great regard attended the whole discourse promising his uttermost assistance; which, quoth he, none can effect so well as Lucida, whose father is a Merchant, and sendeth forth ships into sundry Provinces, who only may please you: which charge I will undertake, and cause her to deal so effectually with him, that you shall attain your desire. Ornatuſ continued in good hope somewhat abandoning his former despair, whom for a time we will leave, attending the time that some of the ships should depart, to speak of Artesia his carefull lover.

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Now after that Artesia by Adellenaes carefull tendance had somewhat recovered health, Lenon began to visse her again, being unable to endure the heavy burthen of burning love, thinking her sicknesse proceeded from fear of Floretus, not for want of Ornatuſ company, and finding an occasion saluted her in this sort: Most fairest Artesia, my heart is so firmly enthralled to your beauty, & my affections so admire your vertues, that I am constrained to utter my mind, and to tell you, I so love your beauty vertues, and other most rare perfections, wherewith you are ad-

orned

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boozed, that I humbly sue to you for favour, and prostrate my self your vassall at your feet, desiring to be enriched with these Jewels of inestimable price: which having once attained, I shall think I have more wealth in my possession, then al the world besides my self doth contain. Your unkind uncles cruelty you need not fear, nor other misfortune; neither have you any Parents to over-rule you in making your choise: then vouchsafe to accept my suit, and yeld consent to my love.

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In this sort did he daily visite her, still growing more importunate: amongst manie other this conference passe betwixt them: Artesia (quoth he) how long shall I sue and be frustrate in my hopes, by your unkindnesse? Is your heart hardened against me: or am I of so base conditions, that you can not conceive well of me? Or is it possible you bear so hatefull a conceit of love as you make shew for? then may I accuse mine eies that have betrayed my sences, in making them your thall then may I think my woe begun, when I first began to love. Artesia, be not so cruell, as to punish me with this disdain.

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My Lord (replied she) I took not your disquiet; for at the first motion I told you my mind, which shall never alter: neither is my heart hardened against you more then others, for I am determined not to love: then seeing you see my intent it were a point of wisedome in you to shake of this fond and foolish love, which is but a toy, and an idle fancy, that is bred by vanitie: and do not seek to make love grow without a root, for in my heart it shall never take root, but rather when it is rooted, I will pull out heart and all, but I will root it out. Then (quoth he) you are led by obstinacy, and not by reason: for that you are subject to love, you cannot deny: then why not me before another, considering my love is more faithfull then any other? And I being most worthy, wher should I not be first accepted? Artesia was weary of his speeches, having her constant thoughts bent only on Omatus; therefore to rid him from her, she said. It is in vain to use many words neither am I like to those, that will at the first seem coy, but afterwards yeeld: but I desire you to bee satisfied with that which I have already said, that I cannot love.

Fair Damosell, how can I be satisfied with that unreasonable answer, when my life dependeth on your consent: which your deniall will finish: Then give me leave to say I cannot be so satisfied: but being extreanly refused, I must grow perforce to be as unreasonable in my requests. Consider you not what dignity I might advance you to, by making you my wife: consider you not the pleasures, joyes, and abundance of all contents you may enjoy with me, and how faithfully I love you, and with what humilitie I seek your love: and yet notwithstanding you remain obdurate: My power is great, that whereas I sue, I might command: and by authority compell you to consent: then be not so overcanceled, as so obstinately to reject your god, and think, that if my love were not constant, I might use extreame which might soon alter your mind. Suppose (replied Artesia) I were so peevish as you terme me, yet being born free, I am not to be made bound by constraint:

Ornatus and Arctesia.

Ornat : and were you the greatest King in the world, you could not rule the heart, though you might by injustice punish the body : for it is not Kingdomes wealth, nor craulty, can turn hatred to love, but it may soon turn love into hatred. But by your speeches I may partly know your thought, and the lips utter what the heart intendeth: do with me what you will, I cannot love: neither will I love you, were you March of all the World.

Lenon was so much grieved and vexed at her speeches, that he was ready to tear his haire, his loves extremity making him rather mad than sober, that presently hee departed, saying no more but this: farewell hard hearted Arctesia.

She was glad he was gone, presently telling Adellena all that had past betwixt them, and how peremptorily she had answered his impotunate suit : telling Adellena that since Ornatus was for her sake banished, she would never love any but him, and preferre her life in hope to see him again; but the first knowledge of his death, should be the latest date of her life: both she and Adellena thinking that Lenon would never return to prosecute his love.

But hee being come to the Palace, betook himself to his chamber, raging more like a mad man, then a passionate lover: sometime swearing, cursing and stamping, yealding so much to that mad fancy, that in the end he vowed to obtain Arctesias love, though he hazarded his life, honour and good name: that raging in this sort up and down his chamber, he espied an old Gentlewoman named Flera, going by his window, whom he called unto him, and thus said: Flera, because I have assured confidence in thy fidelity, and purpose to reward thee liberally, I crave thy counsell, and with it thy consent to be faithfull in concealing my secrets, and diligent in doing my command. The old Hag making an evill fashioned loyn eftelle, said: By dear son Lenon, be it to do you good, I will hazard my life, and rather be torn into a thousand pieces, than reveal what you shall vouchsafe to tell me.

Then (quoth he) counsell me which way I shal begin to
win

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win a fair Damels love : Harry my Lord (quoth she) give her knowledge thereof, and then with fair speeches win her: if that will not prevail, give her gold, and there is no doubt, but that fair bait will catch her.

No no (quoth he) these are of no force : I have made my love knowne to her by humble suits, submisse behaviours, and by all kind of courteous meanes intreated her consent : yet for all that, she remaineth obstinate : She is rich, and therefore Gold with her is of no force : She is faire, vertuous, noble and chaste, then what engine hast thou to undermine that chastity.

Meanes enough (quoth shee) peradventure she is ruled by others counsell, which may prevail more than your suit : but might I have access unto her, I would not doubt but to alter her mind : for being faire, young and rich, she cannot chuse but delight to be praised ; subject to love, and therefore yeld to desire.

Doeſt thou think (quoth he) thou couldest win her, wert thou her keeper : I warrant you (quoth she) I would doe it. Then shalt thou be her keeper: see that thou beest to morrow at my fathers castle in the green forrest, where to morrow by night this Damzel shall be, whose name is Artesia, daughter to Arbasius lately dead : use her kindly, let her want nothing, nor be not in any wise known, that thou knowest me, nor that the Castle belongeth to my father ; nor speak not of love in any case : use her in this sort, untill I speak with thee, for thou onely shalt have her custody.

Flera being gone abut her busynesse, he found out two of his trustiest servants, to whom he imparted both his mind & intent : willing them on the next morning with sped to go to Adellenas house, and either by force or fair meanes to take Artesia from thence, and carry her unto the green fortresse, in the greene forrest, where they shoulde find Flera, to whose custody they shoulde commit Artesia : and themselves shoulde remain there, to provide all things necessary, untill his coming.

Early the next morning, the servants rode to Adellenas house

Ornatus and Artesia.

house, whereinto they boldly entred, and comming to Artesia, first spake her faire, but afterwards tolde her she must go with them, if not willingly, by constraint. Artesia then began to burst into tears, weeping and lamenting exceedingly, upon knees intreating them, not to offer by violence to carry her from thence, but if they wold needs, that they wold take Adellena with them: but all was in vaine, for they constrained her to mount up behind one of them, and away they rode in great hast. This hevy parting was so sudden, that Artesia could not bid Adellena adue, but with tears, nor Adellena speake word for grief, their sences being so far confounded with a care, that their hearts were ready to burst therewith. Artesia thought it was Lenons doing and therefore sorrowed the moare, not that he used her unkindly, but that he loved her: not fearing his cruelty, but his lust: not regarding what cruelty he could use by hatred, but fearing his love would make him seek her dishonour.

Being come to the foxtresse, and committed to the custody of Flera, the old woman began to speake her faire, and use her kindly, yet her very words and countenance bewraying her guilty conscience; to whom Artesia wold not speake a word, leste thereby she shold give her occaſion to paze: meate she brought unto her, but she refused to tast thereof; and when she came to her Chamber, she lay on the Rushes, refusing the bed, tormenting her heart with care, vexing her head with thought, and buseling her sences, or meditating to what illme this usage wold soote.

Sometimes calling on Ornatus name for comfort: sometimes accusing Lenon of barbarous cruelty, and cursing her crooked destinies: uttering such plaints as wold have turnid Tyrants to ruth: weeping her eyes dry, and her Garments wet tearing her hair, and tormenting every one of her sences with vexation, refusing sleep, rest, ease, or quiet.

The next day Lenon came thither, asking Flera how she fared: who told him that she wold not speake, eat, nor sleep, but fared like one mad and sencelesse. But let her alone, quoth she, and you shall see this fit will scorne bee over, the

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extremity wherof being once past, I will use my skill to
try her.

Lenon giving order to have all things necessary provided, departed. Dinner time being come, and meat set before Arctia, she refused to eat: likewise Supper time being come, she determined to do the like. Which Flora perceiving, said:

Fair Gentlewoman, to behold your outward appearance, would make one judges your mind harboured many hidden vertues: but I comparing your actions with your apparent shew, suppose that you are either mad or carelesse: this behaviour, to solum dumb to refuse sustenance, and to restrain from speech, are instances of folly, not wisedome. What if you speak, what if you did eat or take rest, should you be ever the worse: or restraining, can that do you good, or banish griefe, and not rather make your estate worse? Doe you think to prevent any thing by doing your self harme? No, fond child, eat thy meat, and preserve thy life; for living, thou mayest attain thy desires, but dying, thou art past hope, which that she departed, smiling.

Arctia hearing her speeches, began to consider indied, what folly it was to refuse her meate: and for fears to shorten her life, by disempowering her selfe, which might bee the meane to further Lenons intent, whom shee knewe would sieke her life, if he could not winne her love; shee presently left off such desparate behaviour, and with well weighed consideration attended the event of the wodly missettme: that from that time shee did both eat her meat, and did all that shee could to comfort her self, still living in god hope of Ornatus return.

Some few dapes after, Lenon came to the Foxtresse again, enquiring of Flora how Arctia fared. Well, quoth she, but you willed me to conceal that it was your doing, to bring her hither, and some body else hath told her thereof, for she knoweth the truth as well as your selfe, or I: and therefore I would wish you to visite her, and after that, let me alone to perisade her.

Lenon was ruled by the old Woman, and came wher
Arctia.

Ornatus and Artesia.

Artesia was saluting her: but she disdaining either to look on him, or hear him speak, withdrew her self from his presence: therewithal she departed, willing Elera to do that which she had undertaken. And Elera finding her as she thought in a fit mood, began to commune with her of many things, amongst which, love was one.

Artesia a while heard her, but in the end perceiving her drift, cut her off with these speeches: Old iniquity, I know whereto thy talk tendeth: thinkest thou I will ever harbour a thought of Lenon, that hath used me thus dishonourably? no, rather will I rend my wofull heart from out my breast before his face.

Thou needest not to tell me, that he hath intrreated thee to speak for him: for I know too well both his and thy intent, which shal nothing prevail, but harden my heart against him. Therefore do not speake to mee for I will not heare thee, nor answer thee; but hate him, thee, thy counsell, and remain so constant in despising him, that a thousand deaths shall not alter me.

Is it Love that hath made him with violence carry mee from my Friends, make mee a Prisoner, and also commit mee to the custody of such a Hellish Wagge as thy selfe? If that be his Love, let him turne it into hatred, and never trouble me but with hating me; for in so doing he shall better please me.

Often Elera would have replied, but Artesia would not suffer her, that she began to ware angry, and in the end to plain fury: that running to Artesia, she caught hold on her, and began to tear her Garments from her body, and withall, caught sometimes such firm hold on her pure flesh with her nailes, that the bloud followed that Artesia began to shieke for smart.

When the old Welsam had executed some part of her intended revenge and cruelty upon her in this sort, she said: Proud Girle, thinkest thou to bear it away with out scolding me? No: do not think I will leave thee thus but thou shalt repent that ever thou camest here, and before I go I

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will my mind of thee, then she pulled out a knife, and catching hold on her, swoze, that unlesse she would promise to use Lenon kindly when he next came, he would cut her thoat: which drav: Artesia into that feare that shee began to intreat her, and sprak fair, promising to condiscend to any thing that agreed to her honor. Stand not upon these nice tearnies with me (quoth Flera) but here swear to yeeld to love him: for so thou myest delay him, and frustrate his hopefull expectation, whom thou art not worthy to touch, much lesse to beare such a presuming mind as thou doest in scorn of his love. Therefore yield to that which I request or stand to my mercy. Cast thou bellow thy love better, than on so honourable a Prince: Canst thou attain more dignity, reap more content, enjoy more quiet with any, then with him? Then do not deny me: for I purpose not to be denied.

Artesia trembling for fear, made this answer onely to satisfie her: I am contented to be ruled by Lenon, whose meaning I know is honourable. Therefore I pray do not offer me this outrage, but suffer me to live in quiet untill his coming. If this will not satisfie you then do the worst you can: for death is more welcome to me then life in these extremities. Well (quoth she) I will try you, but if you dally, beware what will ensue: for I am resolved what to do. Artesia was glad she had satisfied her, though it were with uttering words which she never intended to perform.

Adellena seeing how suddenly Artesia was taken from her, caused one of her servants privily to follow them to the green Fortresse: who returning, told her what he had seen. Then Adellena began to study how to release her from thence, and with all hast rode to Allinus house: where being arrived, sh: declared all that she knew as concerning Ornatus: and how Lenon had carried Artesia by violence into the green Fortresse. Allinus being glad to heare that Ornatus was alive, promised to redeeme Artesia from Lenons custody. And that to effect, the next Evening caused his men to mount themselves: and himselfe, with some five of them, disguised from being knowne, came to the green

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green fortresse, and one of them knocking, whiles the other hid themselves, the servants little suspecting any such ambush or intent, opened the gate, when presently they rushed in, and soon found out Artesia, whom Allinus told who he was, and to what intent he came. Artesia was glad thereof, and willingly yeelded to go with him: but the old woman made such an out-cry, that all the place rung thereof. One of Allinus servants seeing she would not be pacified, drew his sword, and thrust it through her body; and so with a yelling cry she gave up the Ghost.

Then presently Allinus departed with her, intending to carry her to his own house, to keep her there unknown, untill he could hear of Ornatus. And rememb'ring that the two servants were fled, and would no doubt certifie Lenon what was done, would not go back the same way he came, though the readiest f: then he thought he should meet them; but went a more secret way, thinking by that means to passe unseen: and entring into the plaines where catrell fed, Allinus espied a company running towards them, whom he suspected to be Lenon, which in reason he could not think, but that fear perswaded him thereto: The company likewise espying them, who were certain Pyrates, that were wandred from their ships to steal cattel, wondred what they should be that were so late abroad, and being ready to any mischiese set upon Allinus and his company.

Allinus thinking it had been Lenon, would by no meanes yeeld nor speak, fearing he shoule descry them, but resisted the Pyrates: who being used to many such meetings, soon slew two of Allinus servants, and had given himself so many grievous wounds, enforcing him to yeeld: who taking from him all that was good, and constraining Artesia to go with them, hasted to their ships. when having conveyed her aboard, to prevent the worst, hoysed sail, and lanch'd into the deep.

Then was Allinus left in most miserable Estate, with all speed hasting to his house. Lenons Servants likewise were by that time it was Midnight, gotten to the Wallace, and called their Lord out of his bed, to certifie him what was hap-

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pened: who presently mounted himself, and with a sufficient company rode to the Fortresse; and entring, found Elera slain, and all else fled.

Then began he to muse who should do that deed, and what they should be that had carried away Artesia: by this time it was day light, and Lenon rested in exceeding vexation to be so dispossessed of his beautifull love; yet he commanded his men to post by companies severall wayes, if it were possible to find those that had done that deed, whilst he himself remained there, bewraying that misfortune.

His servants had not rode far but (by the light of the day, which discovereth things done in darknesse) they found Allinus two servants whose dead bodies they carried back to the Fortresse. Lenon seeing them, presently assured himself that Allinus was a party in this action, and that he had taken away Artesia, to seek her death. To prevent which mischief (as he thought then or never to be done) he presently rode home to the Court, and humbly upon his knee intreated his father to grant him license with a sufficient power, to rescue Artesia from Allinus, who intended to murther her: declaring how he himself found her in Adellenae house, and how that he had placed her in the grēn Fortresse, to defend her from Allinus and others cruelty, being left fatherlesse, and how that night Allinus had taken her from thence by treason, and intended no else then her ruine. The King hearing his sons speeches, granted his request.

Then presently divers, to the number of three hundred men, with as much speed as could possibly be, armed themselves, and in hast with Lenon went to Allinus Castle: into which they violently, and unawares to any within, entered.

Lenon presently laid hands on Allinus, whom he found sore wounded, asking him for Artesia: who thinking that some of his servants had bewrayed before what he had done, presently confessed the truth of all, both of his intent, and how Artesia was rescued from him but by whom he knew not, and how at that time two of his servants were slain.

Lenon

Lenon giving credit to his speeches, never left till he had searched the whole Castle throughout, but not finding her, accused Allinus that he had murthered her, commanding his men to bind him, and carry him as a Traitor to the Court, Who being come before the King, confessed the truth as before he had done, utterly denying, that he never sought Artebaes death, but her safety: But yet notwithstanding the King was so over-ruled by Lenons accusations that he committed him to prison, his Goods and Lands were seized upon as a Traitor, his Lady wife turned out of doores in poore array, and all cruelty and outrage committed against his Servants and Kinsfolks, and commandement given, that none should succeed them.

Allinus being in pris on laden with Irons and hardly used, yet endures that affliction patiently: but hearing of his Ladys calamity, and how she was unlawfully constrained to beg, that all her life had beene tenderly brought up, thought those sorowes woulde soon bring her to her end and entred into many bitter lamentations for her and his own misfortune, which were too tedious to recite. His servants were constrained to disguise themselves, and travell into further places of the Country, to live unknown; otherwise, none would have entreated them. His Lady was compelled to seek out a poor man of hers, that lived in the Country: of whom she was entertained, and there lived a poore life, farre differing from her former life, which she took most patiently.

And thus was Allinus house defaced, his Goods and Lands seized upon, himselfe impizoned, his wife in poore estate, his servants driven to wander from place to place, ready often to perish for want of succour, & al his dignity turned to misery, only by Lenons malice: who had no ground for those accusations he used against him, but onely of a vain suppose, and mad franticke affection that over-ruled his heart: which so prevailed with him that he sought by all means he could, his death.

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CHAP. XI.

How Ornatus got shipping into Phrygia. How Allinus was set at liberty: and how the Pyrates cast lots who should poslesse Arte-
sia.



Ornatus all this while remained in the Country of Natolia, with Alprinus and Lucida, in great griesc for want of means to depart into Phrygia to see what was become of his dear love Artesia: But being a long time frustrated, by reason none of the Ships that were at Sea came home, he began to despair: thinking that Artesia supposing him dead, by reason of his long absence, would now marry Lenon: whch griesc, and many other doubtfull thoughts opprest his heart with such passion, that he began to wax sick, and afterwards fell into an exceeding feber, which held him for the space of three moneths in great extremity: which surely had abridged his dayes, had he not been most carefullly nourished by Lucida, who had an especiall care of his good.

During which time of his sicknesse, certain Ships of Phrygia waved on the coast of Natolia, some fourteen miles distant from the towne where Ornatus was, of which hee had intelligence by certain factors belonging to Lucidas father. Which newes revived his spirits with joy, before djaoping with care, that within few dayes he recovered his former health: which greatly rejoiced Alprinus and Lucida, whose hearts were linked unto him in bands of unseparable friendship: who likewise dealt so effectually for him, that they attained warraant for his passage, and furnished him with all kind of necessaries and sufficient stoe of Gold to bear his charges.

Lucida likewise intreated her father to agree with the Phrygian Merchants for his convoy, soz that himself would not bee known

known disguising himself in the habit of a Pilgrim, w hich kind of people might without disturbance passe unexamined, and without molestation. And the time of his departure being come, he took his leave of Lucida, who took his departure with such exceeding sorrow, that the abundance of her flowing tears stopt the passage of her speech. Alprinus likewise with many courtesies bad him farewell, and wished his prosperous successe. Thus departed he the confines of Natolia, where he was in so short space so well beloved, and so kindly used, that had not his love to Artesia, and hope to find her in safety constrained him, he could have been contented to have spent the term of his life in that place.

The Merchants of Phrygia had not sayled many dayes, but they arrived in a haven some ten miles distant from the Court, whether Ornatus determined to travel: and having taken his leave of the Parriners, and paid them their due, furnished with all things fit for his disguise, he took his journey, and the first night lodged at a village near adjoyning to his fathers castle, the custome of which place he well knew before, and therefore framed his behaviour according. And being set at Supper amongst such Guests as lodged in that house with him the Host named Milo suddainly sighed, which one of them noting, demanded what inward grief drave him thereto: Marry sir quoth he, if you have not heard the news I will tell you so much as I know, which I would I had never known: Within few dayes there dwelt an ancient Knight hereby, named Allinus, exceedingly well beloved of all men, who is lately fallene into great misery, the occasion whereof is this.

Then did he declare the manner of all that had happened to Allinus, how Artesia was taken from him, but by whom, no man knew himself in prison, his goods confiscated, and his wife and servants turned out of doores, with command that none should succour them.

Ornatus heart was so pincht with this newes, that he was ready to fall under the table: which old Mylo and the rest noted, perceiving such a change of countenance in him that

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they all deemed him to be exceeding sick : but he fearing to discover himselfe, told them, it was but an ordinary course with him to be so troubled.

But being unable to mitigate that passion he rose from the Table, and gat to his chamber : where being alone, he began to meditate the depth of these mischances imputing the original thereof to proceed from himselfe, that he entred into these bitter plaints : My misfortunes are without compare and I more miserable than any wretch living: By my evill Destinies Artesia was first left in misery, afterwards im-
prisoned, and now surprised by those that will intend her ruine or dishonour : my Father imprisoned, my Mother banished, and all his lands, livings, servants, and friends taken from him, and he subject to Lenons mercy, that is mercifull, cruel, deceiptfull and malicious.

Only by my folly are these mischances befallen. Can there be any more wretched than my self? Hath not my Father cause to wish that he had never begotten mee, and my Mother that she had never born me? Hath not Artesia cause to accuse me, hats me, and forsake me, when for my sake, by my folly and want of wiseman she is brought to so many miseries?

What shall I do? Or what remedy shall I seek, when all things are past reuere? Whom may I blame but my self? Is there any that are interested in the cause of these woes, but my self? Lenon, Lenon, as well as my selfe, hath procured these evils: his affection to Artesia hath caused my banishment, my Parents woe, and her losse. To travel in her leach, and leave my father in prisen, the one will be in vaine, when I know not whether she is conveyed, and the other dangerous to his safety: for Lenon, no doubt, of malice will seeke his death.

In these and such like plaints, he spent most part of that night.

Early the next morning comming out of his Chamber, he heard a great tumult in that village : the occasion whereof was this, such as were Tenants and Friends to Lenon, hearing

hearing of his unjust imprisonment, and with what cruelty Lenon sought his overthow, assembled themselves together, with purpose to intreat the King for his release: that in the end there was thre hundred of them assembled. The common people, & such as were idle persons and ready to any attempt, misconceiving their intent, and bearing a mind desirous of liberty, which they thought they were restrain'd from, by certain strict Laws the King had made gathered unto them, that contrary to their expectation, there was a multitude: the intent of whose assembly being demanded, they answered, that they meant to redeem Allinus: Among whom Oratius in his disguise thrust himself, using many forcible persuasions to urge them forwards to that attempt, that they were ready to run confusedly to the Court, not regarding danger, nor the displeasure of the King.

One of Allinus friends named Thrasus, standing up amongst the rest, craved audience, to whom they all listned, whilst he said.

I perceive your intent is to release Allinus, wherein you shall shew your love to him, and doe a deed worthy to be eternized, for that he hath not at all deserved to have such injustice ministred unto him: therefore be wise in this attempt, and first know against whom you bear arms, that is, against your lawfull King, who may punish this fact with death, for that we undertake to break those laws which he hath ordinated.

But follow my counsell, and I will set you down a course whereby you shall attain your desire, and be void of any such danger, which is this: First, let us all repairs to the Court, and humbly intreat the King for his release: If he will not grant that, then that he would have his cause tried by the rest of the Peers of the Land: Which if he als deny, then may we with god cause venture our lives in his rescue. The multitude hearing Thrasus, in sign of consent, all cried, Thrasus, Thrasus shall be our captain.

Then presently every one with such furnitare as they had, hasten to the Court, and comming together, woots not seem to

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enter by force, but with a full consent, yielded to Thraus directions. Who desired one of the Guard to certify his Majestie, that there were a number of his subjects gathered together, with no intent of evill, but onely humbly to crave a booke at his Highnesse hand. The King being certified hereof was much troubled in his mind, what the thing should be they would demand: and being perswaded by Lenon, would not himself come out, but sent one of his Knights to demand what was their request? Thraus declared to him the cause of their comming, and what they demanded. Which when the King understood being exceedingly enraged at their boldnes, bad the Knight make them this answer That he was not by his subjects to be controlled, & therefore denied to performe the least of their demand: commanding them presently to depart every man to their severall places, lest he punished their presumption with death. The Messenger had not scarce ended his wards, but presently the unruly multitude began to rush in at the Court gates, some carelesly ruining what soever came next hand, some breaking downe windowes, some assailing such as resisted them, and every one bent to do mischiefe.

The King fearing the peoples unruly rebellion would turne to some greater mischiefe than could be suddenly prevented, and might also endanger his person, not knowing who had instigated them thereto, with the Queen and Lenon fled. Which when Thraus knew, calling to the multitude, he willed them not in any wise to destroy the Kings house, nor attempt any thing more to displease his Majestie, so that the King was departed, and he had Alius at liberty. But notwithstanding, some bent onely to enrich themselves, spoyled the Kings Treasure, and utterly defaced the Kings house: by which time the night brewe high and every one began to wraue themselves. Alius seeing what exceeding mischiefe this attempt had brewe, which was done contrary to his thought, & without his consent: yet thought it not best to trust to the Kings mercy, though he was never so innocent: for notwithstanding that he would suppose it was done by his procurement:

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ment: therfore (after Thrasus had willed the unruly multitude to depart as secretly as they could, every one to his house to prevent further danger, and save their lives, by keeping themselves unknowne) he and Thrasus that night without delay disguised themselves, and fled towards the coast, to get shipping for Armenia, whither they intended to travel.

Ornatus was by, and beheld all this, glad of his fathers escape, not purposing at all to discover himself, until he had found Artesia, in whose search he meant presently to travell: but such confus'd thoughts whither to direct his steps, did so overwhelm his conceits, that he rested like one metamorphosed, not knowing whether he should seek her by sea, or by Land: By sea he thought his labour would be in vain; and if he should go to find her by land, he knew not whether she might be at sea, and so conveyed into foraign countries.

At last rememb'ring he had heard Mylo say, she was rescynded from Allinus in the Desart where his cattel fed, he determined to travel thither, though he had little hope to find her there: and being come thither, sometimes bewailing her absence, accusing his hard fortune, breathing forth bitter sighes in remembrance of her losse, and renewing the remembrance of their love, he spent some three dayes in that place uttering those plaints to the Trees and Birds, for otherwife thers was none to hear him: Where for a while we will leave him.

The Pyrates having as is before said taken Artesia from Allinus, and with her such wealth as they could find about them: having withal furnished themselves with the spoil of such cattel as fed in those places, returned to their ship, and with hale hoysed sail.

The night being now past, one that was chief amongst the rest, named Loprates, went down to view Artesia, having as yet not seen her beauty, by reason of the night: and now comming near her, and beholding her divine form, his mind was presently ravish't with that sight, & he thought that none but himself should enjoy her: which took such efficacy, that whereas before he intended nothing but her Dishonour, his

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mind w^s is now altered, & he intended to use her in most reverent and decent sort, & not by cruelty but courtesie to win her love. But beholding her tears and exceeding lamentation, and how impatiently she endured the extremities she was driven unto, comming towards her with a most submisse gesture, friendly countenance and gentle speech, he said.

Fair Lady, be not any thing disquieted that you are made captive to such as delight in spoile: for though our minds are otherwise bent to al incibillity, yet to your self shal no w^song be offered, such vertue hath your beauty imprinted in my heart & whereas heretofore w^sout mercy, both I & the rest of my consorts have not regarded the plaints, distresse nor what w^song we have offered either to Lady as damsel: yet towards your self is my heart altered, and my meaning honestly bent: that I assure you not onely of quiet & to be void of all w^song by us to be done: but also wherein soever I may work your will, quiet, ease or desire, I will most willingly imploy my uttermost endeavours. Then I beseech you mittigate these cares banish this sorow and dry up your tears: for you have no cause of care, nor occasion of sorow: but rather to say, this vertue resteth in me, to alter rude and barbarous minides to civil and vertuous behabition.

Artesia looking earnestly upon him, being endued w^s an exceeding wit, & thinking it best to speak him fair that used her so kindly, said: Sir, I know not how to mittigate my grief when it encreaeth: or how can I be void of care, unlesse I should grow altogether carelesse, being onely subiect to woe & none so unfortunate as my selfe, having endured so many afflictions & crosses in all respects, & I know not how to assure my selfe of the least quiet: Then give me leabe to continue my easelss plaints, & do not blame me of impatience, nor think I suspeid your speeches by distrust your fidelity, if in the sorte I continue my sorowes: for I have so long continuall in th^s as I can better away w^s the than mirth for & to me is a dragger. Yet notwithstanding, my heart will harbour some quiet if by your courtesie I may rest in security, & be sheltered from woe. By this time they were arrived at their place of harb^r, which was

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was betwixt the hollows of two rocks, or rather rocky Islands, where their ship lay safe frō weather, & so far under their shade that it could not be seen: themselves carrying such wealth as they ffor time to time got, in hollow caves, of great largenes, where was al things necessary. And having fastned their ship, the rest of Lupraces fellows cal'd him up: who came, and brought Artesia into the cave; who beholding y same, was surprised w̄ an exceeding discomfort of ever getting from thēce.

Some of the ruder sort liking Artesia, began their rude behaviour towards her: but Lupraces stepping unts them, uttered these speeches: My masters, thus long have I lived your captain in this place with care respecting your good as much as mine own and taking but an equal share with you, of such prizes as we have taken: and rather the least part: noo onely in respect of my faith & fidelity, I request to have this damzel as my prize; the rest of the wealth take you: in doing which, you shall bind me unto you for ever.

One of the rest liking Artesias beauty as well as hee, and of a moze rude mind, disdaining y he alone shold have her in possession, said: Captain, all which you say we confesse to be true, neither hath our care been any way lesse than yours, therefore there is no reason why you shold claim any peculiar privilege aboue any of us: besides, you know we made a law, and bound our selves to perfym the same by oath, which was: That none shold possēs any thing, without the general consent of all. Then perform those conditions, and let her belong to us all or to the chiefest of us and in so doing neither of us shall sustain wrong. Thus began they to contend about Artesia; every one desirous to posselle her, and yet neither willing any shold have her but himself, that they were likely to muſting and fall out: til at the last they concluded to cast lots, and she fell to Lupraces share, that was the most worthy of that privilege, for that he bare the most vertuous mind.

Thus for a time this strife was ended, and Artesia was by Lupraces kindly used for many dayes: in the end their viciuals began to waste, and they thought it high time to seek for more, that they determined to fetch in some, as before they had doe,

But

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But then began Luprates to take care in whose custody to leave Artesia, lest in his absence they should do her wrong. Amongst the rest he chose out one whom he thought fittest and to him he committed her: by whose means Artesia rested void of disturbance, though not void of exceeding care, that continually tormented her: fearing never to see Ornatus again nor to be released from that place of bondage.

Chap. XII.

How Ornatus found Artesia, and preserved her life: and how she was taken from him againe by Lenon: and what afterwards befel.



Upates and the rest being landed, came in the night into the plains to steal cattel, and by chance lighted on the place where Ornatus hanted, being directed to him by the sound of his lamentations. Luprates demanded what he was? I am (quoth he) a most miserable creature, by misfortune dralon to all extremity. Then (quoth he) thou art not for our company: and with that they departed leaving him there.

Ornatus heart began presently to misdoubt, that they were the very same that had taken Artesia from Allinus; which made him presently study how to have them apprehended: and remembryng that he had heard many complain that their cattel were often stoln, he supposed them verily to be the Theebes: that with all the hast he could, he rau to the next village, and raised the towns-men, telling them what he had seen: who presently issued out, and with such weapons as came next to hand followed the Pyrates, and soon found them: setting up on them, took two of them, and the rest, some soze wounded and hurt fled to their shipp, and with all the hast they could, got to their harbour.

Early

Early the next morning, the inhabitants conveyed the pirates to the Court, who being come before the King, confess the manner of their life, and where they lived. Then Lenon presently supposed, that they were the very same that had taken Artesia from Allinus; and demanding the same of them, they told him, that there was such a damsel in their care, and that she told them her name was Artesia.

Then Lenon without delay, strongly accompanied, rode to the next Haven, and there got shipping, by the Pirates directions, to find out their Fort. Ornatus likewise, after he had raysed the peoyle, secretly followed the Pyrates unto the place where their ship lay, and amongst the rest, entred the same: who by reason of their hast and exceeding fear, regarded him not, who thrust himself into that danger, only to see if Artesia were in their custody, not reckoning how his life might be endangered thereby: but the Pyrates by Luprates directions, hastned to the Fort, and from thence took Artesia into their ship, not daring to stay there, for that they knew some of their fellows were taken, who might by compulsion be constrained to reveal the place of their abode.

Ornatus no sooner espied Artesia, but he knew her, and his heart leapt within him for joy to see that happy sight: but he durst not speak to her, nor scarce settle his eyes to behold her, for fear of suspect, for that Luprates marvelling how he came amongst them, demanded what he was, and what he made there? I am (quoth hee) a poor Pilgrim, that against my will was by some of this company constrained to come aboard.

Luprates believing he said true, made no further question, but with hast sayled from Phrygia, conveying Artesia into his Cabbin, using many speeches to comfort her.

They had not sayled many hours, but a contrary wind began to arise, and the Heavens were darkened with thick Clouds and such a mighty Tempest arose that the ship was by violence driven back, their main Mast broken and thrown over board, and all in danger of destruction had not the land been near: for the ship driven by violence of the sea ran a-

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ground, and there split in sunder, and the Pyrals with great hazard escaped drowning: none of them, nor Luprates once regarding Aricia; but Ornatus seeing in what peril she was, caught hold on her, and getting on a Plank, being withall somewhat skilfull to swim, with much adoe, gat on to the firm Land, and preserued her from a miserable death by drowning.

He was no sooner past danger, but Luprates would have taken her from him: but Ornatus seeing none but himself there, and all the rest fled for fear, told him, since he had forsaken her in extremity, he was not worthy of her; and therefore shold not have her. Villain (quoth Luprates) yeld her me with quiet, or else thy life shal not detain her. With that, Ornatus caught hold on a boord, whiche he cleft in sunder with his foot, and with the same gave Luprates so sudden and deadly a wound, that the brains fell out about the place, and he dyed. By this time the storm was quite overpast: and Ornatus seeing his dear love very weak with fear and distemperature, by the arm led her unto a mollie Bank, where the Sunnes bright beames had ful force to dry her garments drooping with wet.

Aricia seeing how tenderly this stranger regarded her, and with what pain he had preserued her, when she was of all but him forsaken, being willing to shew that she was gratesfull said: Sir, the pains you have taken, and friendship you haue shottone to me, deserve more thankes and recompence, then I am able to give: and therefore I desire you to think that if I were able, I would requite the same: but my misfortunes are so exceeding, that they withhold me from doing that I would; onely thanks is the smal requital I can yeld in token of a gratesfull mind, being by your meanes at more quiet, than many dayes I haue been, though more disquieted than you would judge: but now I rely upo your vertues, with hope thereby to be preserued and not driven to further misery.

Fair Lady (quoth Ornatus) my life shal be spent in your service, neither wil I part from you, until I have brought you to the place whiche you desire: requesting you to make no

doubt

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doubt of my loyalty. I suppose your name is Artesia, because (quoth he) in my travels I have met a Gentleman of this Country named Ornatus, of whom I learned the truth of many of your misfortunes: who I assure you is in good health. ^{Blessed} news (quoth she) then will I hope once again to see my dear Ornatus, whose absence hath been my only cause of woe.

She had scarce ended these words, but Ornatus espied a ship even then come a shone where theirs was cast away, & most of the men landed; which was the ship wherein Lenon was: who beheld the other ship cast away, and the storm being ceased arrived there. From whence Ornatus knew not how to hide himself, and Artesia not so much as thinking Lenon had been in it, but that it was the ship that likewise by the storm was driven to land there. Presently the men began to spread themselves every way, and some of them soon espied Artesia, giving Lenon knowledge thereof, who immediately came towards her, most kindly saluuing her: but she being exceedingly dismayed with his sight, whom she most mortally hated, for very grief, burst into teares that in abundance gushed from her eyes,

Lenon marvelling thereat (and little thinking how much she hated him, and how unwelcome he was) rather expecting thanks for his pains, then reproof, said: My dear Artesia, be not now discomfited, since there is no further cause of care; I have most diligently laboured to release you from grief ever since Allinus by treason conveyed you from my custody, taking your absence in great heaviness for that it pinched my heart to think you should fall into such distress: but now that all those misfortunes are past I beseech you go with me to the Court, where I will labour to procure your content. Artesiaes heart was vexed to hear his speeches that she made him this answer.

Most discourseous Lenon, none but your self is cause of my woe, whose sight more tormenteth me then all the afflictions I ever endured. Allinus carried me indeed fro the gowne to prison; not by treason, but to shelter me from dishonour, which

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you did intend, else would you not have suffered me to endure such misery as I did by my heilish keper. Think you I have cause either to think you intend my god, or take any comfort by your presence, when you onely disquiet me not suffering me to enjoy my liberty, but would perforce constrain me to that I cannot like. Had you left me in Adellenaes house then had I not fald into such misery, as I have since endured: no, Allius for his vertue, have been brought to poverty; who being before my professed enemie, seeing my miserte, it so mollified his heart that he hath pittied me, and sought my libertie, and onely by crueltie, not by justice, have you sought his overthow. Then I beseech you leave me here; for I had rather endure the hazard of my misfortune, then live to be tormented with your importunacie.

Lenon was so amazed to hear her unkind replie, little thinking he had been so much out of her favour, that he could not tell what to say: sometimes thinking to leave her there and utterlie to forslake her; but that thought was soon overcome by his affection, or violent sting of desire to enjoy her, & once again he said. Why Artesia do you regard my god wil no more, than for my pains to yeeld me rebukes, and for my love, disdain? That I caused y to be brought from Adellenaes house, was for that being there, you were subject to manie misfortunes. And if I imprisoned Allius, it was for that I supposed him your enemy, and feared he wold have done y wrong: so that whatsoever I did with intent of god, you repay me with dislike, and convert all my doings to the worse meaning, wherein you shew your self too cruel that will not yeeld me y least favor for my constant love. O Artesia be not so hard hearted. Artesia, notwithstanding many fair promises, vovels and protestations he made, would not yeeld to goe with him, but desired rather that he wold leave her there. Lenon told her, though not for his sake, yet for her safety, it wold be best for her to goe: which said, he commanded his seruants to place her in a Litter. which when she saw she must needs do, she called to Oratus, saying: God Palmer goe along with me, that for the kindnesse you have showne in

in preserving my life, I may yield you some recompence. And (quoth he to Lenon) I request nothing of you for my self, but for this strange Pilgrim who (when by the storm his ship was cast away, & I ready to perish) caught me out of the water, & preserved my life; and do not for his god wil to me use him as you did my dear Silvia, whom I banished, for that she preferred my life from my unkind uncle: with that she wept exceedingly. Then Lenon asked Ornatus what he was? I am (quoth he) as you see a Pilgrim, that was forced to come aboard this Pyrates ship, and (amongst the rest) was ready to perish, but that by the divine providence, I was ordained to preserve that virtuous damzels life. For that dair (quoth Lenon) I wil reward you most kindly: therefore go along with us. Then they all deparred to the Court.

Lenon presently caused Artesia to be lodged in a most sumptuous place in the Court, appointing divers damzels to attend her, thinking by those meās to win her to consent to love him: but all proved vain, his care was cast away, his cost to little effect and his kindness unregarded. For Artesia was so constant to Ornatus, that she hated Lenon: for her heart was wholly employed to wish his good, and Lenons ill: for she determined never to love him, though she was assured of Ornatus death. Thus she spent her time in continual care & sadness, shewing no sign of joy, no sign of comfort, but even as one that regarded no rest, nor took felicity in any thing: that Lenon both admired the same, and laboured by many meanes to alter that humour: but the more he sought to please her, the more she was displeased, and more discontented at his kindness than any thing else. In this sort she continued many dayes, without the least shew of alteration.

Ornatus all this while remaining in the Court, making the cause of his stay to receive Lenons promised reward, whereas indeed he stayed to see what would become of Artesia, or by what means to get her from thence. To effect which, he saw no possible means nor could in many dayes come to see Artesia, which filled his heart with grief; onely comforting himself, with remembryng her constant loyalty. And one day be-

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ing by himself alone, he entered into these cogitations. Ornatus, thou hast remained many daves in this place, kept from thy love, and sought no means to set thy heart at rest, or her at liberty. Dost thou make no more account of her love than to attempt nothing to attain the same? Dost thou make no more courage, that they will do nothing: thy wit so shallow, thou canst devise no stratagem: thy mind so cowardly, that darest not revenge the wrong Lenon doth thee? What though he be the Prince and heir of this Land: is not both he & his father hated ruling by usurpation and cruelty, not with justice, hath sought the downfall of thy house? Can Arethia think either valour or vertue to rest in thee, when she shall know how near thou art to her foe, but darest not touch him? Will she not esteem thee a coward, and unworthy to enjoy her love? Nay, when she knoweth this will she not alter her love? Why shouldest thou not seek thine own content, though it be with his discontent? Thou art every way as good as he by birth though he now rule the Land. Hath not thy father said, That his father was but a Captaine in the late Kings daves, & by treason put his lawfull King to death, and so won the rule? Then Ornatus revive thy spirits, seem not to be dismayed wth any danger, fear not misfortune, seek to releaste thy love, & ventur^s thy life therein: soz living thus, thou shalt be deprived of her love: Lenon will by force of fair meones overcome her: & then mayest thou blame this delay. The King is now sick, and he being dead, Lenon must raigu who then may do what he list: Then take the advantage of the time, & do not frustrate thy blessed hope with slothful delay.

Having ended this meditation he then to began to study how to perform his will, wherein he found many contrarie-
ties: but presently he beheld Lenon entring the Court, before w^{ch} he stood so opposite & he could not chuse but note him, & withall, remembred how earnestly Arethia had entreated him on h^r Pilgrims behalfe, wh^o he thought she esteemed: when suddenly this cogitation arose in his fancy, to use him as an instrumēt to win her love: calling Ornatus unto him, he said: Pilgrim, I pray thee blame me not for forgetting to perform
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my promise made to Artesia, as concerning this, which I have not neglected for want of good will, but by reason of thousands of cares that daily torment me, onely procured by her unkindnesse: but if thou wilt undertake one my behalf, to persuade her to yield to my just request, for that I think thou maist prevail with her above any: I will not onely reward thy former kindness so shoun to her, but also for thy paines herein promote thee to high dignitie: therefore I pray thee give consent to follow my counsell herein. Ornatus was willing to be imployed in that businesse, which sel out according to his hearts desier, & therefore made him this answer: My noble Lord say that I perceive your intent is good, I will be ready to follow your directions, & do y^e any servics I can: wherin I know not whether I shall prove fortunate, or no but assure you that I wil deal both faithfully & effectually, in y^e which I shal undertake. Leon was as glad as he, that he yielded to do that which he thought least to perform, & therefore preserly gave command, y^e the Pilgrim onely shoulde have her in custodie. Artesia maruelled that her keepers were charged misdoubting some intent of hard usage: but seeing it was the Pilgrim y^e now had her in custody, her heart was conforted.

CHAP. XIII.

How Ornatus had the custodie of Artesia: how hee discovered himself unto her. How Allinus and Thraulus arryied in Armenia, and got the King to send Embassadors into Phrygia.



Ornatus at his first comming found her sitting in the darkest corner of the Chamber, bewraying her misfortune, with salt teares bewetting her purple cheeks: her ornaments diuersely put on, and her golden necklace hanging carelessly aboute, which adde'd beauty to her sweete beauty, and comelynesse: hee comming, shewing her answere, recouering, and his cheeke with a white handkerchief.

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ing by himself alone, he entred into these cogitation. Ornatus, thou hast remained many daves in this place, kept from thy love, and sought no means to set the heart at rest, or her at liberty. Doest thou make no more account of her love than to attempt nothing to attain the same? Do are thy spirits of no more courage, that they will do nothing: thy wit so shallow, thou canst devise no stratagem: or thy mind so cowardly, thou darest not revenge the wrong Lenon doth thee? What though he be the Prince and heir of this Land: is not both he & his father hated ruling by usurpation and cruelty, not with justice, hath sought the downfall of thy house? Can Aracha think either valour or virtue to rest in thee, when she shall know how near thou art to her foe, but darest not touch him? Will she not esteem thee a coward, and unworthy to enjoy her love? nay, when she knoweth this will she not alter her love? Why shouldest thou not seek thine own content, though it be with his discontent? Thou art every way as good as he by birth though he now rule the Land. Hath not thy father said, That his father was but a Captaine in the late Kings daves, & by treason put his lawfull King to death, and so won the rule? Then Ornatus revive thy spirits, seem not to be dismayed wth any danger, fear not misfortune, seek to release thy love, & venture thy life therein: for living thus, thou shalt be deprived of her love: Lenon will by force or fair meones overcome her: & then mayest thou blame this delay. The King is now sick, and he being dead, Lenon must raign, who then may do what he list: Then take the advantage of the time, & do not frustrate thy blessed hope with slothful delay.

Having ended this meditation he then to began to study how to perform his will, wherein he found many contraries: but presently he beheld Lenon entring the Court, before w^{ch} he stood so opposite & he could not chuse but note him, & withall, remembred how earnestly Aracha had entreated him on h^r Pilgrims behalf, who he thought she esteemed: when suddenly this cogitation arose in his fancy, to use him as an instrument to win her love; calling Ornatus unto him, he said: Pilgrim, I pray thee blame me not for forgetting to performe my

my promise made to Artesia, as concerning this, which I have not neglected for want of good wil, but by reason of thouſands of cares that daily torment me, onely procured by her unkindneſſe: but if thou wilt undertake one my behalſ, to perſuade her to yel to my just request, for that I think thou maſt per̄vail with her above any; I will not onely reward thy for̄mer kindneſſe ſo shewn to her, but alſo for thy paines herein promote thee to high dignity: thereforſ I pray thee give conſent to follow my counſell herein. Ornatus was willing to be imployed in that buſineſſe, which fel out according to his hearts deſire, & therefore made him this anſwer: My noble Lord for that I perceive your intent is good, I will be ready to follow your direcſions, & do ȳ any ſervice I can: wherin I know not whether I shall prove fortunate, or no but affiſe you that I wil deal both faithfully & effectually, in ȳ which I ſhal undertake. Lenon was as glad as he that he yielded to do that which he thought leaſt to perform, & therefore preſently gaue comand, ȳ the Pilgrim onely ſhould have her in cuſtody. Artesia marbelled that her keepers were ſhaged miſe, doubting ſome intent of hard uſage: but ſeing it was the Pilgrim ȳ now had her in cuſtody, her heart was conforſted.

CHAP. XIII.

How Ornatus had the cuſtody of Artesia: how hee diſcovered himſelf unto her. How Allinus and Thrahus arriyed in Arme-
nia, and got the King to ſend Embaſſadors into Phrygia.



Ornatus at his firſt coming found her ſitting in the darkeſt corner of the Chamber, bewayling her miſfortune, with ſalt teares bewetting her purple cheeks: her Ornaments diſorderly put on, and her golden ſtellis hanging careleſly before, which ſome uility to her ſiluer heauers, and rounde iſſes, and ſtrayly ſtrewing her amorous a Courſe, and her Cheek with ſpots the heat of her hewe. When

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When he beheld her sitting in this disconfortable sort, his heart was ready to melt with remorse, and he breathed forth so bitter a sigh that she heard the same: which he perceiving, came towards her, with humble behavour saying.

Most vertuous Lady, pardon me presumption, in presuming thus unmannely to interrupt your quiet: Lenon the Prince hath appointed me to be your attendant; therefore I beseech you (notwithstanding I am his substitute) command me in any dutiful sort, & I wil most willingly imploy my uttermost endeavour, to purchase your content. Artesia raising her self from the ground, said: Pilgrim, I thank you for your kind proffer, and am glad y^e are my keeper for two causes: one for that I trust your vertues wil not suffer me to be injured; the other, for that I would hear out your discourse of my deare friend Oraatus, which I was hindred from by Lenons sudden finding me. Lady (quod. he) you shall be assured of the one, and hear moze of the other, if first you will vouchsafe without offence to hear my speech, and suffer me to execute the charge Lenon hath given me, and I have undertaken. Why what is that (quod. Artesia) I will not be offended: Lenon hath made known to me his love, and how long, & with what constancy it is grounded commanding & istreating me in his behalfe to become an humble suitor unto y^e; he tellet h me, that still you ungently disdain him, without cause, reason, or consideration; therefore I humbly desyre, both for y^e he is constaunt a Prince, and of god & vertuous gifts, yeeld to his love, or else satisfie me of the chiefest reasons that withhold you from the same.

Pilgrim (quoth she) for that my mind perswadeth me, you in wisdom will conceive of reason, and will be faithfull to conceale that whiche I shall disclose. I answer you thus; First admit Lenon did love me (yet by his usage I thinke the contrary) I cannot fancy him for that I already have plighted my faith to another more worthy than himselfe, whiche is that most vertuous and kind Gentleman Ornatius: who like-
wise equallly me incydenceth; and therefore I shun him, notwithstanding he be my faithfull and zealous perpetuall intauy-
er. I shun him to me selfe so incydenceth. These I thinke are
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Oruatus and Artesia.

reasons (to a reasonable creature) sufficient, & of such force, as none can contradict: and therefore no more can be said therin. Besides, were not all this so, you have no reason to perswade me to that which I have so often denied, and will never yeeld unto. Your reasons indeed (quoth he) are great, and the cause such as should no way be violated: but now yo are subiect to his mercie, and he may enforcs you to that which you are most unwilling to have done: then what remedie have you, but rather to yeeld, thā endure such extremisie as he may use? Yes (quoth she) when I can p[re]serve my self no longer from his lust, death shal rid me from his power, which I will execute upon my self, rather than condiscend to yeeld him so much as an antward shew of favour. Therefore I pray you use no more words tending to the breach of my faith, and furtherance of his love: forz knew you but how hatefull his name were unto me, and how odious to think of his doting love, you would not onely desist to torment me with the sound of that ominous monstre, but rather to seek to comfort my distressed estate, and proz pining heart, almost drowned with sorrow, being more unfortunate than ever any was by these afflictions, and the love of my deare Ornatus, whose presence should release me from this thaldome, and labyrinth of discontent: Of whom if you can tell me any tidings, I beseech you impart them unto me, thereby to ad comfort to mitigate my care.

Ornatus was so ravished to hear her utter such heabenlie spaches, that he had much ado to refraine from embracing her, uttering these louches: How happy is Ornatus by attaining the love of so vertuous and constant a Lady, worthie to be admired eternized, and ever to be honored: what comfort may thse pleasing words bring to his heart? what joy, men can he not account pleasure, endured so so sweet a Ladies safety: and what pains should he refuse, to procure her sweet content? O Artesia! divine Artesia! Ornatus is not able to expelle his content nor your desert; unable to recompence your kindnesse and everlastinglie bound to you in all arm bands of faithfull loyaltie. In your heart is the harbo

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of true loyalty, grounded upon vertuous love: then how happy is he, by being enriched and possesst with such a love: His reward is greater then his pain: his pleasure more then ever his sorrow could be, his gains a thousand times beyond his losse. Why should I then conceal the truth of his safety from you? With that, he said; Behold Artesia your Ornatus, with that he discovered himself unto her, and she perfectly knew him, being almost amazed with that heavenly sight; when with a sweet behaviour, they both imbraced each other, intermingling their kisses with teares of joy that in abundance distilled from their eyes: surfeiting so much in that sweet delight that they were loth to part, but that fear to be espied, compelled them; taking such exceeding comfort in each others presence, as is not to be exprest: withall, using many kindnesses, usuall betwixt faithfull friends, to expresse their joy: he sometimes embracing her, and she againe with a sweet kisse welcomming him: being so many, so kind, & hearty, as would ask a skilful description. At last, having somewhat re-created themselves, and with sudden joy banished some part of their care, they thought it time to study how to procure their happiness, lest the same might again be cross by Lenon, who by that time expected to hear from him. Therefore Ornatus said: My most dear and kind wife Artesia, by whose love my life is preserved, I am not able to expresse the joy my heart conceiveth by this fortunate meeting, being likewise as sorry to think of the misfortunes y have indured by my carelesse oversight, and how to get you from this place; and from Lenons affection, whom I know to be of such uncivill disposition, that he will leave no disloyall means unattempted to further his intent.

Therefore in this urgent extremity if you wil be cōtēted to esteem me as your friend, and follow my directions, I wil labouer al that I can to get you from this place. My true friend Ornatus (said Artesia) I have dedicated my self to your disposition, and make my self all one with you both in heart, body, and mind that whatsoeuer you would wish your self, you do to me, and whatsoeuer pleasest you, cannot displease me, for I am

am your self: wherefore I commit all things to your wisedome and rest to be ruled, counselled, and ordered by you in what-soever you shall think convenient, and will do any thing you shall counsel me unto, both for our escape from hence, or otherwise: accounting my blisse yours, and yours mine, your cars mine and your quiet my content.

Lenons love is most hatefull to me, and injury to you: then what means can you work to rid me of that, and rebege your own wrong: perform, for my consent is ready to yeild to any thing you shall think convenient.

I most humbly thank you said Ornatus, & first I think this is the best course, to procure my god liking with him and to rid us from hence, that at his next comming you shew a little more friendly countenance unto him, than heretofore you have doe as shal best agree wth your wisedoe, & he perceiving that my service hath done more for him thā ever he could attain wil not only credit me, but be ruled by me in any thing I shall counsel him unto: which if you will perform commit the rest to me. My deer Ornatus at your request I wil do this which otherwise I would never of my self yeild unto; for that my love to you, and hate to him would not suffer me so much to dissemble: but I pray God deliver me well from forth his power, that I may in quiet enjoy your sweet company. These speechez being eved, they parted wth a sweet kisse, he sighing & she for grief shedding tears. Not long after, Lenon came to Ornatus requesting to know whether he had prevailed any thing with Artesia in his behalf. My Lord qd. he, I have used many perswasions to her, which in some sort have prevailed, but hereafter I do not doubt but by my perswasions to win her full consent if you with wisedome will be directed by me and not with rashnesse marre all: therefore go in unto her, but not too rashly, and see if she be not altered. Lenon imbraced him in his arms, saying: Thou bringest me tidings of exceeding comfort, for which I will reward thee most bountifully. With that, he gaue him a Purse of Gold, which Ornatus took, thinking that should be a meane to further him and hinder the giver. Lenon entred Artesias Chamber,

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using many kind speeches, and submiss behaviours, whom he used more kindlie then ever he had before dons: which both filled his heart with joy, and made him according to y Pilgrims directions more carefull of his behavor, lest by any boldnesse he might offend her: that having past some smal time with her, he departed.

Now was Ornatus studying how to release Artesia: to fur ther whose intent, the occasion thus fell out: Allinus and Thraulus, as is before said, gate shipping for Armenia, & arrived there with safetie: first directing their course to the Kings Wallace, where Allinus was most honourably entertained, being somewhat allied to the King, to whom he declared both the cause of his exile, and the injury done to him by Thaeon, King of Phrygia. Turbulus the Armenian King, comforted him all that he could, and bad him withall request any thing at his hands & he would grant it him. Allinus alledging many things to perswade Turbulus to yeld thereto, requested him to send Embassadores into Phrygia, either to request performance of certain Articles, or else to give him open defiance for war. The Articles were these. That Allinus should be restoroz to his lands, and the damage and losse hee had sustayned should be repayed to the full: that his wife shoulde be recalled from banishment, and that he shoulde yeld up Artesia to Allinus, if shee would be in his custody, & that the R. and Lenon shoulde be sworn to perform all this. Turbulus was easilie won, and therefore preseately sent four of his noblemen as Embassadores, to request the performance of certain codicilios: Who when they were landed in Phrygia, and newes thereof was brought to the Court, the King being himselfe somewhat sickly, sent Lenon to meet them, and give them entertainment: who was loth to go from Artesiaes sight: but al suring himself of y pilgrims faith, committed her wholly to his custody. Ornatus thought it now y fittest time to seek to escape but he was hindred by other of Lenons seruants, whom he had secretly appointed, as oversers to look into the pilgrims aion: that it was impossible for him to attempt any thing that way, but it must needs both be discovered and prevented.

Ornatus

Ornatus and Artesia.

Ornatus seeing himself disappointed of his purpose, that war, made Artesia acquainted with what he intended, & how he was prevented, spending the time in Lenons absence continually in her company.

Lenon having met the Armenian Embassadors, brought them to the Conre where they were honourably entertained: and having declared their Embassage, Haeron the King told them they shold receive answer within two dayes. Lenon hearing the Articles, counsellest his father not to yeeld to perform any such conditions, but rather to send Turbulus defiance. For (qd. he) your Majestie is as absolutely a King of Phrygia, as hs of Armenia: and then what dishonour were it to you to stoop to his command, and shew your selfas it were afraid of his threats: for to bind your self to this were to become his subject: which would soon be published through the whole wrold to your dishonour. The King being over-ruled by his persuasions, gave the Embassadors this answer, That he meant not to perform the least of those Articles they demanded, nor feared the Kings threats of wogr, for that he was able to deal with a mightier foe then he: using many other words, and some of reproach, that the Armenians denouncing open war, according as they were commanded, departed.

CHAP. XIII.

How Ornatus staying too late in Artesias chamber was accused by Lenons servants whom he flew. How Allinus with a band of Armenians landed in Phrygia: and how Ornatus was imprisoned.

Thaeron knew, that the King of Armenia would perform his word and therefore gave Lenon charge to muster up men throughout the whole land: comitting the chiefe charge of the Army, and ordering of these affairs, unto him: who more hardy bold then wise, undertook all: & in short space had gathered an exceeding great army, and furnished certain ships, to met with the Armenians by sea: if it might be possible, to vanquish them before they shold land.

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These troubles filled the Commons hearts with grief, & their mouths with murmurings: for they understanding, that the King of Armenia did offer war to Phragia, in the behalf of Allinus, that was generally beloved: there was fewe of those that were prest to those wars, but came unwillingly; or rather by constraint, being more ready to turn their sword points against Theon, than against Allinus.

Ornatus likewise hearing of these wars, by his wisedome found out the opinio of the multitude and with what unwillingnesse they came to the Wars: which when he was in some sort assured of he came to the Camp, and amongst all the rest of his familiaris, espied Phylastes, who alwayes loved him most dearly, him he knew to be of a most faithfull and and constant resolution, in perfoiming his promise and was by Lenon appointed one of the chiefest leaders. Ornatus finding him remote from the Camp, came to him, & after salutation, said: Sir Phylastes, I am set unto you by a deit fried of yours, named Ornatus, who trusteth so much in your vertues, that he is willing to put his life into your hands, which you shal hazard in denying him one smal favor, which with safety you may grant: first therefore I request but your promise for your warrant, & then I will declare what I have in charge.

My friend quoth Phylastes, thou tellest me news of wonder, when thou sayest thou comest from Ornatus, whom I fear is long since dead, but if thou knowest the contrary and canst resolve me thereof: I promise and swear to perfoime whatsoever thou shalt demand: for I am sure Ornatus knoweth that I love him nor maketh any doubt thereof: which if he do, he injureth that love and friendship which hath past between us.

Then kind sir (quoth he) that Ornatus is not dead, but in safety, and I am that Ornatus that notwithstanding my speech, make no doubt of your love.

Phylastes beholding his countenance knew him well, and for joy caught him in his arms: My dear friend Ornatus (qu. he) I am glad of your safety, and accursed be my soul, if I do not any thing you shall command.

Ornatus and Artesia.

I thank you (quoth Ornatus,) To enter into the tedious discourse of our afflictions, would be tedious; but in few words I will tell you all. I loved Artesia long, but found no hope nor meanes to attain my love: which made me disguise my self into Romans apparell, naming my self Sylvia, and was fortunately entertained by Arbastus, whose death I found to be acted by Floretus: who falling into love with me, told me, for my sake he would poyson Artesia at the lodge; whither he conveyed her. I fearing to have her taken from me, and h.ving won her love, told her his intent, and conveyed her to Adellenes house: then Floretus and Lenon came thither, demanding her of me: whom I told, I had poysoned her, according to his counsell: we striving, were brought before Thæu who banished me into Patolia: from whence I came back, and by good fortune have the keeping of Artesia in this disguise: the manner I will tell you at more leisure. Now my dear friend Phylastes, my desire is, to change my place with you; you to have the custody of Artesia in my Palmers weeds, and I to march in the field in your armes: which if þ grant, you shall bind me unto you for ever.

Phylastes yelded to fulfill his request: and so for that time they parted apppointing to meet the next day.

Ornatus being come to Artesia told her where he had been, and what he intended, which made Artesia sad, dissuading him from his purpose in this sort: My dear Love, what need you venture your person in the dangers that are incident to War: will you leave me here in doubt, and not rather stay with me to my cōfōrt: There are enough besides, & too many in the field, and Phylastes is able to execute his owne place. Then I beseech you do not leave me in discomfoit: for how can I be void of care when I shall think you are amongst so many enemites ready to be slaughtered: My dear Love, (quoth he, that which I will do, shall be without any hazard at all, but shall procure both yours and mine own content: Then I beseech you remit this care for my safety: for I will preserve my self from danger, for your sake. Besides, Phylastes vertue is such, as you need not once so much as thinke

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amisse of him, who I know would vēter his life for my sake. Besides my honoꝝ urgeth me, revenge of my injuries due to your self and me, and my fathers safetie, are reasons sufficient to perswade your cōsēt: besides, many other causes, more forzible then these, too tedious to recite. Then I beseech you de me me not: for when it shall be known that my father was in armes in the field, and I in this place not regarding to aid him, it wil turn to my great dishonour, and those that before did esteem well of me, will then begin to hate me: then let not your doubt & true love to me hinder my determination, for on mine honoꝝ, your safetie, & my fathers life dependeth.

Artesia seeing she could by no means dissuade him, thought not to let him depart so suddenlie; but clasping her tender arms about his neck a thousand times kiss his lips, whilest with abundance of tears she bedewed his manly cheeks. Ornatus took great sorrow at her heabiness, and delight in her imbracings, that the contrarieties of his conceits, were exceeding; pleasure it self being more pleasant intermingled with care, and care a pleasure, to be indued with such delight. Artesia was loth to let Ornatus depart that night, for that she deemed he should be in danger the next day, and he as unwilling to leave her in sorrow: she on the one side solacing her self in his company, he by her kindnessse making him forget to depart, that before they were aware, Night was come, and well spent: and Ornatus then bethinking himselfe, thought it was too late depart. And Artesia hearing him make a motion to be gone desired him to stay: And yet my dear Ornatus (quoth she) do not indanger your self for my sake; for should Lenons servants find you here, it might redound to our great disquiet. Ornatus likewise well considering the inconvenience, took his leave of her, and left her shedding abundance of teares. Ornatus being gone, found the servants awake, and watching his comming out, one of them sayin: Pilgrim, what maketh thee so saowy, as to court my Masters Love? Is this a fit time of the Night to be in her Chamber? My Lord shall understand your behaviour, and what familiarity is betwixt you: we take you

you to be some counterfeit, else wouldest not such behaviours
passe betwixt you as wee have beheld; therefore here shall
you stay, untill we give him knowledge of your doings and
fidelite: with that they lockt fast the doo, not suffering him
to go out or in. Ornatus by that perceiv'd that they had seen the
kindnesse betwixt him and Artesia, which he knew if Lenon
should understand, he would find out what he was: these
thoughts troubled his heart exceedingly, that he was assured,
unlesse he could be rid of them there was no means to escape
death, if Lenon should know him. With these studiess he
sat a good while silent, til he perceived them incline to sleep,
and casting his eye aside, espied a Bill hanging by the wall,
to which he stole secretly, and taking hold of the same, he drew
towards them, entring into these meditations. And shall I
now commit murther and endanger my soul by so hainous
a sinne: what will Artesia say, if she know thou art so bloudi-
lie beat, and that thy heart is so hard, as to shed thine owne
Countrimens bloud? Ornatus he well advised before thou doe
this deed, and bethink of some other means to aviod the dan-
ger thou art readie to fall into. Other means Ornatus? yea, but
what other means hast he? none at all. Dost thou not see how
they have betrayed thee, & made thee prisoner? what then nad-
est thou make a question to save thy self, and by their deaths
preserve thine own life, which they living will be endanger-
ed, and being once done thou art safe: but by delay, thine own
life may perish. With that lifting up his arms with more
than wonted force, he smote the one on the head, and beat out
his brains; wherewith the other began to awake: but in his
awaking he strok him so full on the brest, that the Bill pierst
his heart, & he lay breathlesse sprauling in his goze. This done
Ornatus found a Vault, & into the same he conveyed their dead
bodies, purposing never to reveal what he had done. Then re-
turning, he bethought himself of the keyes of the doo's, that he
had thowen into the Vault with their bodies, devising how to
get out without suspition of the deed he had done; that he was
enforced to take the Bill, and by main force, & often striving,
wryng asunder the Locks. His mind being exceedingly af-

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frighted with these cares, he entred into Artesias chamber to see whether he had disquieted her with the noise or no: her he found in bed, and fast asleep, with the light flil burning by her bed-side, her breaste uncovered down to her wast. & nothing to shroud her from his perfect view, but the single sheet, that lay carelessly cast over her tender body; her arms cast to either side of the bed, and her head leaning on the one side with so sweet an aspect, as would have ravished a thousand beholders. Oratius heart was so revived to behold this sweete & light y the remembrance thereof had banished all remembrance of his troubles past, and affected his heart with incomparable delight that he stood like one amazed, to behold her sweete beauties, and to take a surfeiting view of those her perfections so amiably laid forth. Artesia suddenly awaking, blist to see him so nigh, yet therewith more comforted than dismayed, she caught the cloaths, & covered her self, whilst he holding his hand in hers, desired pardon for his boldnesse: but she viewing him wel, heheld his pale and ghastly countenance, which drave her into fear, and raising her self upright in her bed, caught him in her arms, asking what ailed him to look so pale: My dear Artesia, quod he, since I parted from you, I have endured great danger, & past through a hel of calamities, which now I fear not: with y he let his head fal into her sweete bosome & there made the period of his speech; feeling her tender heart pant with the motions of her troubled spirits: In which place he rested it a god while, whilst she with her soft hand curled his hair, & with sweete kisses inclicked his lips using many other familiarities & sweete favours, proceeding frō the depth of kind love: wherewith Oratius was so ravished, that he not only took heavenly comfort therein, but also desired a further content, & possession of her love, which he never before asked nor thought she would grant: but being heartned by y assurance of her love, he used more bold behaviour, which she permitted. But at last growing more bold than she thought convenient for her modestie to permit, wā a kind & and lovely behavoir, she both blauned & hindred him: but y motions of affection so farre prevailed with them both, that he desired & she inwardly yielded, though out-

Ornat^{us} and Artesia.

outwardly she refused; but his behaviour, her own love, & present occasion, so fit opportunity, their hearts unity, and other sweet inticements, so far prevailed, that she yielded up her unspotted body, & pure chastity to his possession: and the impression of his attempt dissolved her Virgin roan, giving ful interest of her heart, love, and body, to him that pursued her possession of those riches, wth earnestnesse. Sometimes blushing sometimes shrinking, and yet yielding; denying, and yet granting willing, and unwilling: yet at last she gave her she could not recall, and let him possesse her spotlesse virginity. Which being past her heart panted with her motion, & she felt her selles sad: a little repenting, yet not altogether sorry, sighing for sadness, and yet not sad at all: whilest he bathed himself in that Haven of blisse, passing her rest of that night in such unspeakable pleasure as cannot be deciphered. Early the next morning he arose taking his farewell with a sweet adue, leaving Artesia sad for sorrow, and lamenting his absence, but yet wth earnest and hearty prayers invoking his happy successse; bating her heart in luke-warm tears, thinking she had been too prodigal of her favours to him, & yet esteeming him worthy of a thousand times greater gift, if she had it in her posses^{sion}: with repentance rejoicing, though dreading her self metamorphosed & ether the she was w^{ot} to be: being glad she had no more company to converse withall, least her guilt should make her blush, & so bewray her fault. And when Phabus began to lighten the Chambre with his splendor, he hid her self within the bed, as if the day light had accused her of what she had done in the dark. Oenatus being come to the Camp, soud out Phylastes, and brought him to Artesias lodging; by the way instructing him how to order their busines when Lenon should come. Where being entred Phylastes having saluted Artesia, & a while convers^{ing} about their affaers they changed their habitts: Oenatus with many a sorrowful sigh taking his leave of her while his heart bled warm drops of blood. Oenatus again took his leave of Artesia, & entred the camp, framing himself of such kind of behaviour, that he was of all taken for Phylastes. News came, that the Armenianes were landed and had

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brought their forces within a dayes march of Thaons Camp, the King assembled all the chief leaders together, to appoint every man his charge and cōsult what to do. Ornatus in Phylasies stead, had under his charge four thousand men, whom by his owne seeking he was appointed to cōvey into a wood, that stood fitly to offend the enemy, and the rest appointed to other places, that seemed for most advantage.

Ornatus having his souldiers alone, thought it time to execute what he intended, and therefore called to him such as were Captains and chief under him, uttering these speeches: Fellow souldiers I would willingly utter my mind, which is troubled in some sort with the rememb'rāce of the injuries Allitus hath causelessly endured, against whom now we ad- dres our selvs to fight; wherein in my mind we deal unjustly: for he was never Traitor to his Country, nor now commeth to disturb the land with oppression, but only to claim his own inheritance and liberty, which our selbes do permit: there fore I think it best before we draw our weapons, to consider against whom we draw them, and whom we offend; one that loveth us, his Country, and people, and would not willingly shed a drop of our blood.

Now, if I could find a remedy for all this, which standeth in equity, I wold y follow my directions: With that, they all at once said, they wold be ruled by him. Then he said; Thaon y is now our R. destroyed all his family, & such as are of any degrees near unto him in bloud, & last of whō is Allitus, whose utter ruine he now seeketh, not by justice, but that neither he nor any of his Progeny should hinder his succession: therefore if you wil follow my counsel, when the armies are met, let us not offer to offend the Armenians, but keep our selves frō fight until Lenon affrighted therewith, & fearing the peoples revolt, wil peradventure yeld to perform the Articles the Armeni- an Embassadoz demanded: & by this means shall we resore Allitus to his right, save the effusion of bloud, and yet not wrong our reputation. The people hearing his speech gene- rally gave their consent: crying, Phylastes, Phylastes. With that, Ornatus bestowed the Gold among them that Lenon had

Ornatus and Artesia.

had before given him, which prevailed with the multitude exceedingly. Ornatus having effected this according to his desire went unto the Armenian Camp, desiring to speak with Allinus the General, to whom he declared what he intended in his behalf not discovering himself to be any other than Phylastes: for which Allinus yeilded him many hearty thanks. Whilist Ornatus was absent, a Captain named Ortonus drawn by desire of reward, and above the rest favouring Lenons party, stole from the wood, and comming into the camp to Lenon, bewrayed what Phylastes intended, and how that he was gone to the Armenian Camp, to confer with Allinus. Lenon hearing that, thought it not best to send for him by warrant, but amog the rest to assemble him to counsell, and to that effect sent a Herald. Ornatus being returned had knowledge of the Generall assembly and willingly went, little suspecting what he was intended: and being entred the Camp and Lenons tent, he was before all the Estates arrested by a Herald of high Treason. Ornatus then thought his intent was bewrayed, demanding what they could lay to his charge. Whereupon Ortonus before them all, declared what he had done, which he could not deny: upon which accusation, he was presently sent to the Court and there imprisoned.

CHAP. XV.

How Ornatus was delivered out of prison, and carried Artesia from the Court. How Ornatus in a single Combate overcame Lenon, and caused Thaons flight: And how Artesia to escape Thaon, fled to Adellenages houle.

He newes of Ornatus imprisonment, was was scorne blazed through the whole Camp, Court and Country, and at last came to Artesias hearing, who with exceeding lamentation bewailed his misfortune: but Phylastes coming unto her, comforted her all y he could: promising to set Ornatus at liberty, if qd he at Lenons next coming you wil request his Sigray, to keep as his warrant for your safety.

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The next day the Armies should meet: and therefore Lenon that night visited Artesia; and finding her very sad, demanded the cause thereof: My Lord (quoth she) how can I be otherwise then sad, when I am ready every hour to fall into more misery, not knowing whether your life may be indangered by these Warres, and I thereby subject to some misfortune: therefore in sign you love me, grant me your Signet, to be my warrant and privilege, against all injury that may be offered me: With that she kist him, which she had never before done: not drawn by any good will, but with desire to help Ornatus, Lenons heart was so overcome that he presently gave her the same saying sometime with her to intreat her consent to his love. He was no sooner gone, but Phylastes taking the ring of Artesia, went unto the place where Ornatus was, & coming to the Gaoler told him that he must deliver Phylastes to his custodie: shewing him the Princes Signet as his warrant. The Gaoler seeing the same, & knowing y the pilgrim was of great credit and trust with Lenon, made no doubt, but presently delivered Ornatus to him, both departing together to Artesia: who seeing her beloved so fortunately delivered shd tears of joy for his escape.

After salutations in the kindest sort pask Ornatus declared what he intended, and how he was betrayed by Ortonus. Phylastes the coulelled Ornatus that night to convey Artesia from thence, unto some place of better security: who sometimes thought to carry her to Adellenas house: but he thought Lenon would misdoubt that place. At last he concluded to convey her to her Castle where Arbastus her father dwelt, which was stil kept to her use by certain of her fathers servts: Both Artesia and Phylastes liked this well; and thererore leaving y Castle, they departed thitherwards. Artesia not wanted to travell, could scarcely endure to hold out: but by their help, they arived there at midnight, & knocking awaked the Porter: who looking over the Battlements, demanded who was bejoun at that unseasonable time of the night: my friend (quoth Ornatus) it is Artesia, that cometh in time of her most need, for harbour in this place. The Porter viewing her wel by the bright light

Ornatus and Artesia.

light of Cynthia, knew her, and calling up the rest of his fel-
lows, came running down and opened the gate where he and
the rest received her in with great joy.

Ornatus was glad of this happy escape: but yet exceeding
sad that he could not assist his father against Lenon, but that
he must perforce be absent from his rescue: which filled his
heart with such care, that all that night he could take no rest
and though he enjoyed Artesias company without controll, he
could give no rest nor quiet to his distempered thoughts: that
Phylastes demanded the cause of his sadness. My assured
friend Phylastes (quoth he) the remembrance of my Fathers
estate and fear of his mishap, maketh me thus sad; and grieves
exceeding torment posseseth me, that I cannot be present to
aid him against Lenon, that by cowardly malice not with val-
lour, will seek his ruine before any others: O were I but pre-
sent to defend him, though I offend none, my heart would be
at quiet. Artesia hearing his speeches, said: God Ornatus, do
not again hazard your self as you lately did; for had not Fort-
tune and Phylastes wisdom assisted us, both your life and with
it mine had been cast away.

My dear Artesia (quoth he) that misfortune hath taught me
wisdom, and by rememb'ring it, I will learn to eschew such
mischiefs, and know whom I trust: therefore, I beseech you,
grant I may once again go, to do my duty in aiding my Fa-
ther, which I will now do without danger, for that I will
make none privie to that I intend, nor attempt more than I
am able to perform. Artesia seeing how fully he was bent to
go, preferred his will before her own desire; knowing her du-
tie not to contradict, but to counsel him, and therefore said: My
dear Ornatus, my duty bindeth me to consent, but my love
willeth me to deny: fear of your mishap maketh me unwilling;
but will to fulfil your desire, maketh me giv' an unwilling
consent: onely let me request this, that you wil take Phy-
lastes in your company, and leave me to the custody of my ser-
vants, whose fidelity I am assured of: for having him with
you, his aid and counseil may much avail to preserve your
life: which if you lose (as heavens forbids) with the same shall

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mine expire, for it is impossible Artesia should breath, Ornat^{us} being breathlesse. Ornatus with a few tears, that by exceeding grief were wrung from his heart, participated her lament: first requesting the servants to be carefull of her good, & the without delay both furnishing himself and hylastes with rich Armes and Horse, of which there was great chiose in þ Castle, and for þ the day began to appear, they thought it time to depart, lest their comming from thence might be discovered. There might one behold sorrow at parting in his right forme, heart breaking sighs breathing sad farewells, and sorrowfull teares at so sad a parting: when their lipps were parted their hands still fast; their hands disjoined, then their voices often uttering that wofull word, farewell: and when they were pale hearing, their eyes unwillingly leaving eah others sight, he being without looking back; and she within looking after; so long as she could perceive the glimmering light of the bright Armor, and he being past sight of her, with watry eyes beholding the place of her abode. Thus parted they, as if they had parted never to meet,

Drawing nigh the Armies they beheld them met, & in hot skirmish standing still a good space, to see to whether party it was likely the victory would incline: and in the end, they beheld the Armenians begin to retreat, and Lenon with Theron his father in the midst of the throng making exceeding slaughter and proud of their deemed conquest. Which set Ornatus heart on fire: that he rusht among the thickest of his Country-men, yet not once offering a blow, nor shedding a drop of the bloud he loved, but only making way to come to Lenon: which made them not offer to stay his passage: but admiring what he was, let him go free: after whom hylastes hastened. The Souldiers seeing these two new come Knights offend none, admired what they shold be, not one of them offering a blow because they offered none. By this time Ornatus was come to the place where Lenon was, who even then, & not before had met Allinus: betwixt whom many blowes and some wounds were given, and received but Allinus had the worst, by reason of his age. Ornatus knowing his Father by his

Ornatus and Artefia.

Armour, came betwixt them with his sword drawn, saying: Lenon stay thy hād, let age go free, and let thy youth cope with me, that am come to challenge thee before both the Armies: & thereforeas as thou art the King's son, a Knight, and honourest Arms, give order by thy Herald to stay the fury of the bat-
tel, till thou and I have tryed our valours: otherwise, this Knight and I have vowed to hant thee from place to place, and never give over until we have spilt thy bloud.

Lenon hearing this Champions proud challenge, said: If thou art a Knight, and a Gentleman, as I am, and canst shew wherein I have wronged thee, I will answer thee: otherwise know, that I scorn thee, although I know my self of sufficient strength to abate thy haughty presumption, were it never so great. With that two Heralds were sent from either Generall, to parke the Souldiers: which done, Ornatus before the open Assembly said, Lenon, first I say, I am a Gentleman, as absolute and as god as thy self; Prince I am none, neither art thou by right, but y by tyranny & usurpation thou holdest the same. I came as Artefia's Champion to challenge thee of disloyalty, as the outrages thou hast committed by detaining her liberty, do manifest: I challenge thee for doing injustice against Allinus, whō thou withholdest from his right by treacherous malice: I challenge thee as partaker of Arbatus death, for that thou sufferest & upholdest the murtherer Floretus, that hath deserved death: I challenge thee for oppression laid upon this whole land: And lastly for detarning Ornatus living, who never was impeached of treason; & therefore if thou darest answer my challenge, I am here ready: otherwise, I pronounce thee for a coward & miscreant, not worthy to bear Arms. Lenon made this reply: Being accused by a stranger without cause I regard it not, & being Judge, my self wil not by thee be adjudged: but for thy proud challenge, I will answer thee, as little regarding what thou canst do, as thou boastingly doest vant of thy valor. Therefore even now before I depart, I wil without delay abate thy haughtinesse, though thy accusations are manifestly false: for I both love and esteem Artefia as dearely as I do my self, my title to the Crown is just: for Allinus,

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he is both a traitor at home and abroad: first, in causing his complices to sick my fathers life: and lastly, for bringing these Armenian bands to destroy this country. For Florenus pardon, it is mercie not injustice. As for oppression done to Orratus, all know I never injured him: but if he take the Justice that is done to his traitorous father, as done to him, I cannot help that; but revenge it thou, since thou art his champion. Ornatus had much ado to stay to hear out his speach, which galled him to the very heart, that without speaking a word more, he smote at Lenon, and Lenon with courage answered his blowes, beginning a most fierce and forcible encounter, and with like furie continued the same, till both had received many wounds, and their steeds began to be furious and mad with the smart of some strokes that mist their right aim.

Ornatus calling to remembzance, first the insuriccs he had received & that Lenon & none else could dispossesse him of Arctis as lobe, & many other wrongs he had done him and his parets, thought now to revenge them all, and dispossesse Thaon of the Crozon, by Lenons death: revivd his spirits with such courage, that he begā with renewed strength to assail Lenon, who even then began to faint & would have yelded, but that shame with held him. Which when Ornatus perceived, he thought at once to end the strife, that with one forcible blow he gave him so deepe a wound on the right arm, where the Armour was broken away, that he let fall his sword, and fell senselesse on his horse neck. Thaon perceiving his Son in that danger, with his Guard came rushing in, & rescued him from Ornatus sword: which otherwise had parted his head from his hodie. With this both the Armies soyned battel again; the Armenians with new courage rushing upon their enemies: whose hearts began to fail, seeing Lenon so near death, which made such a confusio[n] amongst them that they were readie to ffe, or yeld to Allinus, rather than fight it out, y on a sudden the Armenians had slain an infinite number of them and all the earth was dyed to a purple colour with their bloud. Ornatus heart was vexed to see so much of his countries bloud shed, that he intre-

intreated Phylastes, to perswade the Souldiers to give over, and himself rode betwixt the two Armies with a Herald, desiring them to stay their fury for a while. Long it was before they would give over, but at last by the Drums and Trumpet sound, having called back the Armenians, Ornatus placing himself in the midst of his Countrymen, that a multitude might hear him, said: Renowned people of Phrygia, hear my speech, that am tormented to see so much of our blood shed, the effusion whereof I seek by all means to stop, having as you see for the love I bare you not lifted my hand against any of you, but onely Lenon: the causes that urge me to challenge him, is the manifest wrong he and his father hath done to your selves, this Country, and all the Nobility; for the true testimony whereof, let every one inwardly examine his own conscience, and they will not deny my words, but find themselves exceedingly grieved with his oppression. Do you not see what destruction he hath brought upon this Land? Are not almost all the Nobility slain and destroyed? Are not your liberties, goods, and friends taken from you? Is not the whole Land in an uproar, and every one driven from his quiet at home to venture his life in the field, and all this for satisfaction of his will and self-command, not grounded upon law or justice? Examine your consciences, is he your lawfull King? did he not murther your lawfull King onely to make you his vassals? Again doth Allinus seek to do his Country wrong: doth he come to oppresse you? doth he seek to abuse your liberty? No, he onely commeth to claim his possessions, by injustice taken from him: he commeth as urged by grief, not to live as a banished man, being himself, his wife, children, and family, driven to live in misery and slavery, for the satisfaction of his lust. Then I beseech you god Souldiers, consider well what you do, whom you defend, a traitor; and whom you resist, a dear friend, that loveth and tendreth your lives as dear as his own: whose estate the Armenians pity, to whom he was never gracious: but his own Countrymens hearts are hardened against him, repaying cruelty for his love, and resistance to with-hold his right.

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I could alledge so many reasons to dissuade you frō followyng Thaons will, as would ask a tedious recitall, but I know you are of wisedome to conceiue the right, your hearts mercifull to pity him, and your minds apt to do justice: then give him over, discharge your minds of care and disburthen your selbes of his oppression. I stand here, as an Advocate to plead for Allinus right, that hath indured too much wrong: I stand here as Arctias Champion, that is impysioned by Lenon, abusid by Lenon, and withheld from her liberty by Lenon: I stand here to intreat you save your own lives, to preserve your liberty to execute justice, & to do Allinus right. Then I beseech you lay aside your arms taken in defence of wrong, and turn your hearts to pity innocency: whereby you shall save many of your lives, shew your selves men that are ruled by wisedome, not be rage, and purchase liberty, freedome, and peace, for ever.

Then you that bear the true hearts of Phrygians, follow me, and forslake to follow that Usurper, and stay such ruine, & destruction as is like to ensue by your refusall: and let the rightfull Heir enjoy the Crown whos will love you, cherish you, and seek his Countries peace. The peoples hearts were so altered with his speches, that many came running to him, crying, Allinus, Allinus: and the rest that were not yet resolved, stood in a doubt what to do. Whiles Duke Ternus comanded his forces to follow him, who withdrew himself from the Cap, and espying so fit occasion determined likewise not to follow Thaon longer, whom he neither hated nor loved, but yet esteemed as an unlawfull usurper of that Kingdome, and rather desiring Allinus shold possesse his right of inheritance, then any way willingly contradicting the same: being, as many others were, forced to come to those wars, fearing Thaons displeasure; whos cared not in what sort his will was performed. Ternus therefore drew himself a part with this policy, that if Thaon prevailed, yet he could not impeach him: and if Allinus had the best, yet he could not alledge that Ternus withdrew him, thinking it the greatest point of wisedome, to keep himself upright.

Thaons

Ornatus and Artefa.

Thæon had no swifter conveyed his son to his Tent, and with much ado recovered him to his sens, but there came a messenger postling from the court, with news, that Phylates was two dayes since escaped out of prison: and presently after him, another brought news that Artefa, with the Pilgrim, was fled, but no man could tell whither. Lenon hearing the newes, became almost mad, and raged so extremely, that his wounds burst into fresh bleeding. And to fill up his heart with sorrow and vexation, another messenger from the Cap came running in, crying: Flie Thæon, flie, we are betrayed to the enemy, the Leaders, Captains, and Souldiers, are revolted, and the enemy is near at hand to surpize thee. Flie, & save thy life; for thine own subjects have left thee, and refused thy Government. Thæon was so amazed & terrified with fear, & without regard of Lenons life he fled to save himself; every one, saving those that fled with Thæon, running to their revolted fellows to save themselves.

This news was brought to Allinus: who hearing the same, and being past fear of Thæons rage, sent a Herald to Ternus, to know whether he were his friend, or still continued those bands to resist him as his foe: who returned this answer. That he was never foe to him, but always wisht his good: afterwards dismissing his souldiers, & sending every one well rewarded to his own house; himself comming back to his Tent where he met Allinus, whom he kindly salutes. Whither were assembled the cheife States of the land; to whom Allinus, said: My Lords, since Thæon and Lenon, are fled, and none left but your Honors in place of Justice, with right and equality to minister the same to such as have sustained wrong: I, as one that have abode the greatest losse, commit my cause to your wisedomes: You know, what injuries I have induc'd by his malice; only, for that I sought to set Artefa at liberty, & was by Lenon imprisoned, and badly used: requesting nothing of you, but that which by right is mine, and belongeth to me by inheritance. The Nobles with a generall assent granted, that he should enjoy his former Possessions; and that his losse should be repayed out of the Kings Treasure.

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Ornatus standing by, said: Most noble Peers, you stand here debating matters, whilst the cause of your woe is living, and far enough from yeelding to that you grant; who now peradventure is mustering new forces to make frustrate what you intend, and to work revenge: Which to prevent, give me your consents to pursue him; and he being once taken, then may you without control either establish him, or chuse a new, y should by right be your King.

To this all the Nobles gave consent: and Ornatus, with three thousand horsemen, followed Thazon, who first took the green Fortresse, with five hundred men; who continued firm, won by great rewards: but hearing of the Armenians approach, under the conduct of the Stranger that slew Lenon, in the night he fled, with a hundred of his nearest friends and allies, to Arbalus castle, where he thought to live secure, and unknown, for that he thought his enemies woulde least of all suspect that place. He arrived there in the dead time of the night: but knocking, was denied entrance; which made him almost desperate, that he assayed to enter by force: and prevailed so that he got in with the rest of his company, making fast the gates again after them.

Artesias servants knowing what he was, some ran one way, some another, to hide themselves from him: one amongst the rest, came running into Artesias Chamber, declaring to her what had befallen & how that the King had taken the Castle. Artesia having not yet heard of Lenons death, nor what success Ornatus had in the Camp, wringing her hands, made this lamentation: Twice hath my deare Ornatus left me in this danger, and hazarded his own life, hoping to attain good success; but cruel fortune hath stil cr off his laudable attempts, and left both him & my poore self in extremis misery. Now am I assured he is taken prisoner again, and my self am like not long to go free: for I am sure the King hath heard of my being here, which maketh him come thus late: Well, might I but be made prisoner in the same place my Ornatus lieth in thrall, that I might yet enjoy his sight, then shoulde I think my selfe happy in misery: but I fear me too much, they will privately murther

murther him, and never let me know thereof: whereby I shall be held with long frustrated hope to see him, and in the end be deceived. Never was poor Maiden brought to such miserie; nor I think true love never crost with such bitter adversties which both he for me, & I for him, have been continually sub-
ject unto ever since our first acquaintance. As she was still continuing her lamentes, the same servant (whose name was Christus) came running in again, saying: Dear Mistresse, I have found a means for your escape from hence, unespied, if you will attempt the same, which is without any danger at all. Never tell me what it is (quoth she) but be thou my guide, and I will follow thee: for I will attempt any thing to escape from him. Then (quoth he) fear nothing, but follow me. Then took he her by the hand, leading her out of that room into a dark entrie, where, by reason of the night, there appeared not the least glimble of light; and through that into many back rooms and unfrequented places of the castle, until he came to a postern gate, which he opened and after he was out, shut the same fast again, saying: Now Mistresse, you are out of the Castle, and past fear of the King, who little knoweth you can passe out this way; therefore I pray tell me whether I shall conduct you? I thank thee good Christus (quoth she) for this thy good assistance, for which I will one day be thankfull unto thee: and now I pray thee direct me to Adellenaes house, who is my faithful friend, and wil rather die than discover me. This said, they began their journey, which was but three miles, and therefore they soon overcame the same, even by the mornings light arriding at hys wished place. Adellena hearing some knock at the gate, commanded her maid to rise, to see who it was: & Damzel comuning down, before she would open the gate, asked who was there. Arcesia knowing her voice, said: It is Arcesia, good Anna let me in. With that the Damzel opened the gate, conducting her to her Mistresse chamber; who espying her, was so surpized with joy that she imbracing her, shew abundance of tears, laying: Welcome my dear Arcesia, I was afraid I should never have seen you again, you have been so long time absent. Indeed (quoth she) I have been long

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long absent from thes, but yet not far from thee ; but I have newes of importance to tel thee, which I wil forbear to speak of until I have refreshes my self, for care & travell hath made me exceeding weary. Then Adellena brought her into a sweet and pleasant chamber, where she laid her down to rest.

CHAP. XVI.

How Ornatus surprized Thaon in Arbasus Castle, who was slain by one of his own servants.



Ornatus hearing the King had taken the green fortresse, beset the same round with hostemen : who took certain of the Kings followers, that being brought before him, told him, the King was fled with some hundred in his company, to Arbasus Castle : which when he heard, without delay he rode thither fearing lest Thaon getting in, and finding Artesia, should offer her some injury.

He was no sooner come, but he found it so: for he was denied entrance, nor could see one of Artesias servants, whom he left as keepers of the sae: which so much disquieted his heart, y he could not tel what to do, thinking it best to intreat Thaon kindly, lest he shoulde seek revenge against Artesia, though she were innocent, and no way to be blamed for any thing: and such a multitude of contrarious fears arose in his fancies, that he seemed therewith metamorphosed. Which Phylastes soon perceived, and comming to him said: How now Ornatus: what hath fear taken away your courage? O my friend Phylastes (quoth he) Thaon is within, and thereby possesse of Artesia ; whose mind is so far from the least thought of vertue, that no doubt he will seek revenge on her. Fear not that (quoth he) but summon him to the walls by the sound of a Trumpet, & will him to yeld himself, and stand to the curtie of his Nobles; and promise him with safetie to conduct him thither. Ornatus allowed his counsell, and therfore commanded a trumpet to sound a parley: and thereupon one from

the Herald appeared on the walls, demanding what he would have. To whom Ornatus said: Tell Thaon the King, that we come to him from the Peers of the Realm. The messenger told the King what he said: Whereupon Thaon came in sight demanding what he would have.

Durst he, I would have you yield, least by resistance, you procure a greater mischief to your self, than is by us intended. Suppose I shuld yeeld (quoth he) how would you use me: Like a King (qd. Ornatus) honourably. I have found (qd he) so small cause to trust you, that it were fondnesse to put my life within compasse of your mercy: therefore: I will keep my self where I am; not doubting ere many dayes, to have so many friends, as shall both chase thee and the Armenians from the walls, and so out of this Country: which he spake, upon the confidence he had in certain friends, that had promised to gather new forces, but meant never to performe the same;

Ornatus was much troubled in mind, to think what was become of Artesia; marvelling that he spake not of her, nor could hear of any of her servants, that might give him knowledge how she fared. But seeing his fair words would not prevail, said: Thaon, since thou refonest the courteous presser, I make thee know, that my intent is altered, and since thou wilt not by fair means yeeld, I will inforce thee to submit thy self to my mercy, or abide my rigour; for not all the friends thou canst find, shall shelter thee from my revenge: for I have swoorn thy death, and nothing but that shal satisfie me. Which now I will once againe revoke, if you will yeald without enforcement, and deliver me Artesia in safety: that is in that Castle. Artesia (quoth Thaon) had I her in my custody, I would be revenged on her, because thou wishest her safety: but she is far enough from me; therefore thou seekest her in vain at my hands, who would as readily deliver her to thee, as thou couldst ask, for that I esteem her not. But if my self it shall never be said, my mind would stoop to base submission, nor that a King yeelded to a slave and base Massall, as thou art. Doest thou think, that a roiall mind can put on so degenerate a habite? No: I tell thee, whatsoever thou art, I had rather

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by enforcement to die than by submission live. But he thou advised what thou doest, nor stay long before these walls; for there are so many whetting their swords, and putting on Armour in my defence, as ere the morning Sun arise, will scare thes from hence. Ornatus heart could not indure these braves and being with all verry fear that Arctesia should sustaine some wrong, thought speedily to work revenge. Which by Phylastes counsell he remitted untill it were night, that then unawares they might by some means get entrance into the Castle, and so surprize them.

Ornatus thinking to walk alone by himself, to breath forth in sighs some part of the fear that possess his heart: and with all, determining to view the Castle, how he might with convenience get into the same without destroying it, for that it belonged to his beloved; he espied the Postern-gate: whereat thrusting, it presently flew open; whitch way as yet neither Theron nor any of his company had found. Ornatus heart was glad he had found so god a means to accomplish his will, and putting the same too again, came to Phylastes and told him thereof. Then both of them presently agreed to enter that way and surprize them: conveying a hundred of the best soldiers secretly under the Wall unto that Postern, and placed the rest in the open view of the Castle, as if none of them had been wanting.

Ornatus and Phylastes entred and after them the rest: who passing along through the wall roomes, at last came to the place where they had left Arctesia, but found her not: and such successe had they in their attempt, that Ornatus comming behind Theron smote him on the back with his hand, before he had any knowledge of his approach: Theron therewith starting and looking back, was amazed; but running forward, drew out his sword crying: My friends, save and defend yourselves; whereunto those that were about him drew their swords: To whom Ornatus said.

How now usurping King, where are those mighty forces should drive me hence? will you yet yeld, or stand to the tryal by fight? I yeld (quod Theron) but much against my will: for had

Ornatvs and Artesia.

had friends dealt faithfully. I had not been left in this misery. But since fortune so much favouretth thee, as to make me thy prisoner, use me well, for that I am a King, and to none but thy self am enthralled. Tell me (quoth Ornatvs) what is become of Artesia, that not many dayes since I left in this place? I saw her not (quoth Theron) nor know I where she is, onely I found certain servants in this place, whom I have put to death, lest they shold bewray my being here. Tyrant (qud. Ornatvs) thinkest thou their deaths shall go unrevenged? couldst thou be so cruel as to murther thase that were innocent; with whom, I fear me thou hast made away Artesia? Why, what art thou (quoth Theron) that usest such undecent words to a King, that art thy self not worthy to speake to a King? and why makest thou such enquiry after Artesia, that soz ought I know hath no interest in her? suppose I have slain her that was the cause of all this wae what canst thou challenge at my hands for her? it has been good she had never been born, for she onely hath been the originall of these troubles. Art thou a King (quoth Ornatvs) and bearest so unkingly a mind as to under true vertue? No: thou art a villain, a murtherer, a Traitor to this Land, an usurper of the Crown, and a most wicked and cruell homicid: but for that thou wouldest know what I am, know that I have more interest to the Crowne then thou hast; my name Ornatvs, and thy enemy, to whom by right that Crown belongeth: which thou shalt no longer enjoy. Thereforo, said he such as are my friends lay hold on this Traitor. He had no sooner spake those words, but Theros own servants were the first that apprehended him, being weary of his government; and one amongst the rest thinking that he had commanded them to slay him, and withall, hoping for reward for that forward exploit, having his sword ready drawn, suddenly (whilst Ornatvs did but turn back to confer with a hylas) thrust the same through Theros boide that yving a pitius groan, he gave up the Ghost. Ornatvs turning back demanded who had done that deed: with that the murtherer drew back, fearing to come before him, until he was comyeld.

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To whom Ornatus said: What art thou, that hast done this
deed? art thou not one of his seruants? hast thou not been main-
tained by him? did he not trust thee with his life? was he not
thy King? the how durst thou presume to strike thy master, be-
ingratefull to him that gave thee gifts, prove false to him y
trusted thee, and slay thine anointed King? My Lord (qb. he)
I did mistake your words, and hope to preserve my own life,
made me to do that deed; which I thought would have pleased
you. I am not (qb. he) sorry he is dead, but for that thou heltest
him, whom thou in all duty oughtest to have defended: for
which thou shalt die a miserable death. Then he commanded
that he should be torn in pieces with horses: which before he
departed thence, was performed.

CHAP. XVII.

How Ornatus was chosen King. How he departed unknown in
search of Artesia. How Lenon sought again to betray him, but
he was disappointed. How he was banished. Fioretus pardoned.
And Ornatus and Artesia royally married.

The King dead, Ornatus with phylastes, returned
to the Court, where all the Peers were assembled,
who before his coming, had by a voluntary mes-
senger understood the manner of Thaons death the care
whereof was already past, for that few or none at all lo-
ved him: but now their care was. whom to chuse as their
King; but first they welcomed Ornatus, none of them all
knowing him, nor once suspecting what he was: who now
could find no other occasion to conceale himselfe; but hum-
bling himself before Allinus, he said: My renowned Lord, the
cause I have so long concealed my self, hath been for fear of
the Kings cruelty, and Lenons envy, who both would have in-
dangered me; but now being void of that misdoubt, your
poor son Ornatus submitteh himself, humbly craveng pardon
for my neglect of duty. With that, hee unarmed his head,
and his father knowing him, in most loving wise embraced
him,

Ornatus and Artesia.

him, shedding tears for joy of his safety, whom he thought had been long since dead. Duke Ternus and the rest rejoiced to see him, and with embracings express their joy, entering into admiration of his honoured parts and noble chivalry. Phylas, being known, was much commended, whom they deemed had been murdered in the prison by Lenon, soz that he could not be found. Allinus beholding Ornatus and with what valor he had behaved himself, rejoiced exceedingly: the Commons clapt their hands for joy; and the Peers amongst themselves began to relate, how virtuously valiantly, and prudently, he had behaved himself in all that he had undertaken. After many welcomes past, Ternus craving audience, stood up, uttering these speeches: My Lords, we need not now defer giving Allinus his right, because there is none to contradict what we establish. Besides we being all now assembled together, and our late usurping King dead, there can be no fitter time to chuse a new King; and such a one, as by right of blood and our general consents may rule us. Then you know was no way interested to the Crowne, but by usurpation, and hath rooted out almost all that he knew to have any title or interest in our late Kings blood; of which house, Allinus Issue is the last, by marriage of the Lady Aura, Pecece unto our late King therfore the right being in him, if there be any man in this Assembly that can contradict that which I have said, let him speak. Which when he had said, he again sat down. Upon his speeches the Nobles conferred, the people consulted, and at last the common soldiers cryed out, let Ornatus be our King, Ornatus is our King. The Nobles likewise gave consent to that the multitude liked, and Ornatus was chosen King whom they would have crowned; but at his desire, they deferred the day of his Coronation for a moneth: in the mean time esteeming him as their King, and that day with great royallty, setting him in possession thereof.

All busynesse for that day being ended: the Armenians richly rewarded, feasted, & w^t joy ready to return: Allinus in quiet, but for the want of his Lady, & al things in god order: Ornatus being alone by himself, indured much disquiet for Artesia mar-

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velling what was become of her; sometimes thinking she was slain by Theron, and then supposing she was escaped out at the Postern-gate which he found open: that in these contrarities of doubts, he continued sometimes despairing, and then again feeding himself with hope.

After Artesia had rested her self, and received some part of her sleep, she had lost that night, though but with broken slumbers; she began to declare to Adellena, what miseries she had induced, & troubles she had past since she was by Lenon carried from her house: how she met with Ornatus again, and every thing that was befallen with the cause of her flight, at that instant. But Adellena, said she, I fear me I shal never see him again: for had he not been taken, and his father overthrown, Theron could not have had so much leisure as to cōe to surprize me there: but þe heavens granted me a fortunate escape: And if I could be so happy, as to hear that Ornatus were in safety, though he had not that successe his desire did alſt at my heart would be at ſome reſt, which is now pinched with ſuſpicious torment.

His adventurous valiant heart could not be withdrawn by any persuasion to leave to aid his father; but notwithstanding infinit perils hung over his head, yet to ſhow the duty of a loving ſon, & þe mind of a vertuous valiant Eſtlemā, he would not defiſt to hazard his person which now I fear me is fallen into the hāds of his enemis. But yet þyphastes I hope, will be his good & friendly couſel be a means to keep him from dāger. Many other ſpeeches Artesia uſed: and Adellena uſed as many on þe contrary part, to perſuade her that Ornatus was in safety: the truth whereof, ſhr told her, ſhe ſhould ſoone know: for (qđ.þe) I have ſet one of my ſeruants to learn þe truth of all þe is hapned, who I know will ſhortly return. Which ſell out evē as ſhe has told: for þe ſeruant returned, bringing newes of Lenons death, acted by a ſtrange knight: & how þe Theron was ſled, & being likewiſe by the ſtrange Knight ſurprized in Arbastus Castle, was ſlain by one of his own ſeruants: which Knight was now known to be Ornatus; and was elected King by the Peers; but he had deferred his day of Coronation by reaſon of

Ornatus and Artesia.

some special grief that troubled him. Artesias heart was revi-
ved with these news: knowing þ grief Ornatus indured, was
for her absence that presently she determined to send him
word of her safety, and wrote a letter the contents whereof
were these.

MY dear *Ornatus*, no news could have come more welcome
to me, than your safety, and nothing more unwelcome than
to hear of your heaviness: which I would entreat you to cease, for
that I am in safety in *Adelennes* house, being by one of my servants
the same night the K. took my Castle, through a postern-gate, in safety
brought hither: where I trust ere long to see you, which will reple-
nish my soul with exceeding comfort: for on your safety, my life
and felicity dependeth.

Yours for ever, *Artesia.*

Having wrote this Letter, she gave it to *Thristus*, willing
him to deliver the same to *Ornatus* with all speed.

Destinies do allot many to exceeding misfortunes: & some
men are of that dishonourable and unmanly disposition, that
they account all means to attain their desires, lawfull; not
regarding the shame and perill will ensue thereon. Of which
nature was *Lenon*: who being conveyed from the Camp by his
friends, soon recovered, & kept in a secret place, lest he might
be known: having no other means but by absenting himself,
to save his life. Whose supposed death, caused *Thaons* flight
to the green Fortresse: from whence likewise he was depar-
ted, before *Lenon* could come to give him knowledge of his
safety. And knowing, that it was too late to salve those misfor-
tunes he still concealed himself; following *Ornatus* (though
unknowen to him) with intent to murther him, if he could by
any means take him at advantage: but he was still disappoin-
ted. And withall saw the death of his father done by his own
servant: still intermingling himself amongst þ soldiers, that
he was taken to be one of them, & never suspected. But *Orna-*
tus being returned to the Court, *Lenon* was then compelled
to leave to follow him, and harboured sometimes in one place,

and

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and sometime in another, having knowledge of Artesiaes absence, he could not tell whether she were alive, or dead; but dead he thought she could not be, but rather by some meanes escaped. And even when Christus was newly come out of Adellenae's house, Lenon espyed him, and knowing him to be one of Artesiaes servants, he suspected his Mistris was there; to whom he came, saying: My friend well met, I take you to be one of Artesiaes servants, unless I be deceived, which if you will resolve me of. I will do a message to you, that I am willed to deliver to her from her dear friend Ornatus. Indeed, qd. Christus, I serve Artesia, and am now going to Ornatus with a letter from Artesia, who is in safety in Adellenae's house. Lenon hearing his speech, being before determined what to do, drew out his dagger; and suddenly stabbed him, casting his body into a pit; and taking the letter from him, brake up the seal, & read the contents: which when he had done, he began to study, which way to revenge himself on Ornatus and afterwards, to get Artesia into his possession; and for that he thought delay might hinder his intent, he first wrote a Letter in Artesiaes name, the contents were these.

Ornatus, my dearest friend, the newes of your happy victory, and conquest of your enemies, is come to my knowledge, than which nothing could have been more welcome unto me. Likewise I hear, that much heavinesse possessteth you for my absence, that am in safety: and desire you to meet me to morrow night, and you shal find me with *Adellenae*, at the Lodge in the Park neer unto my Castle. In the mean time remitting all further report of my escape, and manifestation of my love, untill the happy time I may meet you.

Yours in all love, *Artesia*.

When he had written this Letter, and imitated therein Artesiaes own hand so near, that it could hardly be discerned he went to the Court and behaved the matter so cunningly, that he was no way suspected but was admitted into Phylates presence; to whom he delivered the Letter: for Ornatus him

Ornatus and Artesia.

himself being exceedingly troubled in his mind, had left the Court, with some three in his company, to go in search of Artesia, & left Phylastes in his chamber, and in his stead to answer such as should come with any suits to him. Phylastes being taken for Ornatus of all, but of some that attended him, received the letter, promising to meet Artesia there at the same time appointed; giving the Messenger a reward. Lenon being departed, went to a place where he found a certain Kinsman of his, named Lucertus; to whom he declared both what he was, and what means he wrought for his revenge on Ornatus; who without respect, joined hands with him, and promised with many oaths to hazard his life in pursuit of revenge: who with Lenon concluded, before Ornatus coming to be in the Lodge, with a sufficient company to surprize him, and work his intended revenge. Lenon being assured of his aid, next determined to take Artesia from Adellenaes house, and to bring her to Lucertus Castle; until the time appointed, staying with Lucertus, to see him depart with his ambush to the Lodge: which he saw effectually performed. Phylastes presently, upon the receipt of that letter, sent out a Messenger to seek Ornatus, and to certify him, that Artesia would meet him at the Lodge, with Adellena that evening, and that he should find Phylastes there: who (being by Artesiaes messenger taken for himself) had appointed to be there, lest he should not conveniently be found. The Messenger with great haste departed, and enquiring after four Pilgrims (soz in that habite Ornatus, and such as were with him, went) by that time the day drew near to an end, the Messenger found Ornatus: to whom he declared what Phylastes had given him in charge, onely mistaking the place: soz whereas he should, by his direction, have laid at the Lodge, mistaking Phylastes words, he said at Adellenaes house. Ornatus hearing that heavenly tidings, leapt soz soz, presently halting towards Adellenaes house, which was not far off. Le, non to further his attempt (which he thought he could not by violence execute: soz he thought, if he should carry her away, perforce in the day time, he should be prevented) devised an answer of the letter which he had taken from Thrifus, which

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he determined to deliver to Artesia, as from Ornatus; the con-
tents whereof were these.

My most dear and beloved Artesia, I have received the Letter you sent me by your servant; whom I have employed about a matter of great importance, that none could so fitly execute as himself: which newes was most welcome, to the comfort of my heart, that was almost overcome with despair of your safety, where, on my chiefest felicity dependeth. Therefore omitting further recital of my joy for your safety, which this paper cannot expresse, therefore I will meet you soon, where this my servant will bring you: whose fidelity I assure you is such, as that he will do nothing but what I have given him in charg, until which time of meeting I cease all further circumstance of speeches,

Yours *Ornatus.*

With this Letter Lenon went to Adellenaes house, and knocking at the gate, was brought to her, to whom he deliver'd the same: who reading the contents, and being before not well acquainted with Ornatus hand, nothing at all suspected the contrary; but both believ'd that it came from him, and determin'd to go with the messenger to meet him: whilst she was preparing to go with Lenon, Adellenaes maid came in, telling her, that there was another to speak with her from Ornatus: with that, Lenon chang'd countenance, and Artesia willeth her to bring him in. Ornatus beholding her, thought to have embrac'd her, & discovered himself; but seeing a stranger there, and a letter in her hand, he stood in a study.

Artesia noting well his countenance, thought it was Ornatus himself; but reading in soe doubt therof, said: I have receiv'd this letter from Ornatus already, & therefore if you have any further message from him, tel it me; for any newes frō him shall be most welcome. Ornatus thought it was sent by Phylastes; but not knowing the messenger, marvell'd thereat, saying: I cannot believē that it came from him: for whil's in this hour, he had not knowledge of your being here. With that, Artesia gave him the letter, willing him to read the same. Ornatus soon knew it was invented by some treachery, and there-

Ornatus and Artesia.

therefore said: I know this comes not from Ornatus, for this is not his hand, nor he that brought it any of his servants; for himself sent me before, appointing to be here within this hour. Lenon hearing his speeches, wist himself a thousand miles off, fearing to be discovered, for that he could not tell how to excuse himself nor by any colour avoid the danger. To whom Ornatus said: My friend, when did he deliver thee this Letter? Yester day quoth he. Thou liest (said Ornatus) for he hath not been at the Court these three dayes. Lenon thinking with impudency to outface it having no other means left that was likely to help him, therefore said: This letter came from Ornatus, and thou liest in saying the contrary, being some villain that art set to betray this Ladie: therefore (quoth he, speaking to Artesia) believe him not, for he is come with some evill intent. With that, Ornatus had those that were with him, lay hands on him: who presently apprehended him, and pulling off his hat, and subtil disguise that he wore, knew him to be Lenon, at the first, being half afraid to touch him: for that they wold have sworn he had been dead.

Ornatus seeing Artesia in an exceeding flight, discovered himself, and with great joy embraced her, desiring her to fear nothing. Artesia knowing him, soon forsgat her fear, embracing him with exceeding joy. To whom he said: Fear him not, my dear Artesia; for be it himself or his ghost, I care not: it shal go hard if he now escape my hands. To whom he said: Most dis-
courteous and cowardly villain, couldst thou not be contented to live in quiet, having once escaped my fury, but thou must by further complots & trecheries seek to betray this Ladie. If never did injure thee: How often hast y interrupted her quiet, & from quietnesse brought her into misery: and knowing that she could not like thee yet thou wert so impudent as never to give over thy suit, but to attain thy desire, first deprived her of liberty, banished me in the disguise of Silvia, and sought to betray my fathers life: and not satisfied with al these, like a cov-
ardly miscreant seeketh by villany to betray her: and now with, standing y hast beheld thy fathers woful downfall, & meritori-
ous punishment, thou seekest to betray this Ladie's life by same

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unknown treachery, not yet revealed: For all which, thou shalt suffer punishment as I devised, and have power to execute. Lenon seeing himself discovered, grew desperate and scorning to be rebuked at his hands, whom he still esteemed his inferno; but especially fearing that it was he, that had so long hindered his love to Arctia, said: Ornatus, I think thou hast either forgotten thy self, or else what I am, that at thy pleasure rebukest me in such uncivil and ill beseeming terms.

Am I not thy better, & one that not long since might have commanded thee? and is thy mind so much elevated & proud, that thou wilt not acknowledge it? Thou makest brags of thy victory, when thou mayest rather wth shame keep silence, & with remorse repent; & thou hast sought the death of thy lawfull king, being thy self but a traitor. As he would have spake more, Ornatus interrupted him, saying: Hold thy peace, & do not it in my mind to more sharp revenge by thy reply, for I scorne to hear thee speak; therefore give over, lest I punish that tongue of thine for uttering such high words in defence of vice. Since, (quoth Lenon) thou wilt not hear me speak in defence of my self, let me be conveyed from thy presence, for thy sight is as odious to me as mine to thee. Whiles they continued in Arctia's house, a messenger came running in breathlesse, uttering these speeches: Behold, most worthy Ornatus, I bring thee a message of much woe, and heavy impoxt. Yesterday, there was a messenger came to the Court, that brought a letter in Arctia's name to Phylastes; who presently sent out a messenger, to give you knowledge thereof: but not hearing of his return, went himself, and some twenty in his company, to the place appointed: and entring, he found not Arctia there, but a crew of Rebels, amongst whom, Lucertus was chief, who all at once set upon him and his followers, taking him for your self: having so many, above the small number that were with Phylastes, that they had soon slain most of them that were with him: and himself not able to withstand such a multitude, had received many grievous wounds, and had been surely slain, but that the heavens sent them this aid.

Ornatus and Artesia.

It so farruned that day, that Duke Ternus was going from the Court to his own house: who by great fortune hearing the noise, with his men hasted thitherwards: and having knowledge of what was done, both himself and his men set upon Lucertus, whom they soon vanquished, having first slain many of his complices: and him hath he carried prisoner, with the rest of such as were alive, unto the Court: and with them, Phylastes, in great danger of death. Ornatus heart was exceedingly vexed, to hear of his dear friend Phylastes hurt: but especially, to think, that he had not before attacked Lucertus, which he was once in mind to have done: which would have prevented all these mischiefs. The night now being come, Ornatus caused Lenon to be bound hand and foot, and put into a strong place of his house: with some to watch him lest he shoulde do himself violence: himself, with Artesia, spending that Evening in many speeches, relating the maner of all these misfortunes: but especially comforting themselves in each others love. With Adelena, calling to remembrance the whole maner of their troubles, onely procured by Lenon: which sad relations, made the renning of their love more pleasant and delectable.

Early the next morning, Ornatus putting himself in his palmer's weeds, & covering Artesiae face with a bawl, & carrying Lenon with them bound, departed towards the Court. The next morning: the Peers of the land being still there assembled themselves: amongst whom was Allius; that likewise had found his Lady, who hearing of his happy successs against Thazon, was that morning newly arrived at the Court. & by him entertained with exceeding joy. By that time they were assembled, & had called Lucertus before them, Ornatus, with his company were likewise come, though unknown, and standing by, heard Lucertus confess, that Lenon had instigated him to work that revenge against Ornatus; himself being likewise gone to betray Artesia. The whole assembly marvelling, when they heard him say, & Lenon perswaded him to it, that Allius stood up, saying: Is not he dead? then how can this bee? Lenon (quoth Lucertus) is not dead. With that, Ornatus stepping in, thrust Lenon before him, and said: Here is the man that hath

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procured him to do all this mischiefe. The Nobles beholding him were amazed at his sight: but being assured it was he, by the perfect knowledge they had of him, Ternus said: Lenon, I had alwayes thought thou hadst born the mind of a Gentleman, but now I find the contrary in thee, and that in the most shamefuller degree. What fury led thee to such mischievous attempts, as to hire Lucetus to slay Ornatus; which he hath almost performed: and thy self to seek the death or misery of that vertuous Lady, that hath already indured too much for me by thy folly?

Allinus had not as yet heard of Ornatus hurt; nor any knew the contrary, but that Phylastes was he: for he, according to the mind of a most vertuous and constanct friend, still concealed himself. Nor the Lady Aura had yet seen her son whom she had but heard of; that Allinus said: Is my son Ornatus almost slain? O traiterous villain! With that Aura likewise began to make exceeding lamentation, which Ornatus was not able to behold: and therefore pulling off his disguised habite, humbly reverenced himself before them upon his knee. Both his Parents knew him, and with exceeding joy unbrazened him, shedding abundance of tears for his safety. With that Duke Ternus and all the rest came to him, using him with such behaviour, as belonged to him they had chosen King, seating him in an Imperial chair. He being thus set, said: My Noble Lords, I thank you, for intitling me with this exceeding Honour: therefore my desire is, since you have elected me of your free and bounteuous hearts, to be your King, let me this day, and instantly, be installed with possession of the Diadem, for that I have now no further cause of care, to cause me to defer the same: and likewise that I may give judgement against these most wicked Conspirators. The Nobles with joyfull hearts gabe consent, and imprestately crowned him, with bended knees doing him reverence.

Which done, Ornatus rising from his Imperial Seat, came to Ariella, taking her by the hand, and leading her up to the Throne, seated her in the Chair, placing the Crown upon

Ornatus and Artesia

on her head, saying: My Lords, as you have elected me your King, I pray likewise be contented with that I do, and make this your Queen; Then he pulled off the veil from Artesias face, and her clear beauty appeared, to the admiration of all, who beholding the same, in humble sort did reverence her, making exceeding shouts for joy, their hearts being all glad of her safety. When this was done, he came down, and embraced them, yielding them many thanks; who all shewed such exceeding kindness, as expreſſt their hearty good wills, and refayced both her and Ornatus to behold: especially Aurora and Ternus his Dutchelle, who with many embracings, which they thought they could not ſufficiently expreſſe, rejoiced to ſee her in that ſafety. By that time Ornatus was ſeat-ed again, and Artesia by him. Phylastes hearing of Ornatus re-turn, being though grievously wounded, yet in no great dan-ger of death, as well as he could, came into the preſence: where beholding Ornatus and Artesia crowned, kneeled down before them, his heart conceiving exceeding joy to behold that heavenly ſight: whom Ornatus kindly embraces rejoy-cing to ſee him in that go d' estate, after Artesias ſalutation, willing him to ſit down amongst them.

Then Ornatus firſt commanding Floretus to be ſent for out of prifon, thus ſaid: Now there reſteſt nothing, but to give ſentence againſt theſe, that by conſpiracieſ have been mu-therers, which ſact is ſo hatnious, that it maketh them odious both to God and man: in which offence both thou Lenon, Lu-certus, and Floretus are guilty: therefore Lenon (quoth he) firſt declare what mo ved thee from time to time, to commit ſo ma-ny and grievous acts as thou haſt done; Lenons heart was dead with vexation, to ſee him crowned, and Artesia chosen his Queen, that hanging down his head he wou'd not ſpeak: but Lucretius humbling himſelf upon his knee, asked pardon.

By this time Floretus was brought in, looking with ſuch a meager and pale countenance, by reaſon of his long im-pronement, that Artesia wept to behold him, and could not chyse but run and imbrace him; upon her knee intreating Orna-tus to pardon the offence he had committed which was againſt none but her ſelf.

Ornatus

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Ornatvs, who was then, suddenly caught her up ; embrasing Floretus, and commanding his hands to be unclasped, with this saying : I not onely with a willing heart pardon you, but also give unto you for ever all those possessions that he longed unto your brother Arbastus. Floretus, who expected nothing but death, was exceeding joyfull, and humbly upon his knee yeldeo many thanks.

Then Ornatvs seating himself again, said : Because this day is the first of our reign, which shold begin with mercy and not with rigour ; there shall not a drop of blood by our command be spilt : and therefore Lenon, though thou hast deservey no labour, but a most miserable death, we parson thee. And Lucertus, commanding thee upon pain of death, within ten dayes to depart this Land, soz that we banish thee hence for ever, which doom is too mercifull for thy fact. Soz thee Lenon, we onely banish thee this Court, where on pain of death let not thy foot, lest thy life ransome thy presumpti- on. This said, taking Arlesia by the hand, he was by the Pearre, with a noise of trumpets, and exceeding joy, conduct- ed to a Chappel, and in rogal sort that day married to Arlesia, and from thence to an Imperial Feast, spending all that day in great pleasure, and at night taking lawfull delight in her love : both then, and during the time of both their lives, living in most pleasant, loving, and vertu- ous sort, that most places of y world were filled with the report of their vertuous life, and peaceable go- vernment.

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